Oxfordshire Guardian

Didcot, Wallingford & Thame

Weekly leisure guide for in and around Oxford

Thursday, May 10 - Wednesday, May 16, 2018 oxfordshireguardian.co.uk Free

Pupils meet Trashosaurus the waste truck

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United putting plans in place for next season

Sport

Harwell plan for affordable homes for future scientists

By George Welch

A NEW town the size of 60 football pitches with 1,000 new homes could be built at Harwell Campus.

The science campus, near Didcot, recently unveiled details about its plans to develop more 'wonderful affordable' housing mainly for its workers.

Proposals for the 37.05ha development, to be built on land north of the campus, would also include a neighbourhood centre, primary school and open space as well as other space for allotments and sports pitches.

Director Angus Horner believes the project will 'breathe new life into the campus'.

Most of the homes, built on brownfield land, would be for workers employed on site. There are currently 6,000 employees but this is expected to be 'many thousands' over the next decade.

Mr Horner told the Guardian: "This project aims to deliver wonderful homes that will be affordable to rent and buy for young scientists, engineers and all the other people working in the 'knowledge economy' at Harwell.

"In particular, young people at the start of their careers struggle to afford current house prices in Oxfordshire.

"Having homes on campus, a short walk from where thousands work today and many thousands more will work in the future is a highly sustainable 'live: work' proposition."

An outline of the plan has been submitted to Vale of White Horse District Council and the campus will submit a full application in due course.

Under current plans, the campus will build a third nursery, a second primary school and more shops and cafés.

Mr Horner added: "It will breathe new life into the campus overall.

"Harwell used to have many hundreds of homes on it and the Campus Partnership wants to make this provision again to enable this community to fully flourish throughout this and the next century."

South Oxfordshire District Council's cabinet is due to hold a special meeting today (Thursday) to vote on its Local Plan, after its initial rejection in March.

Officers have recommended the controversial plan to build up to 3,000 homes at Chalgrove Airfield should still go ahead but with a backup site.

In March, the cabinet recommended the Local Plan, which outlines where building will take place until 2033, should be accepted.

Officers recommended a backup at the time but then-leader John Cotton pushed through keeping the plan as it was. The council consequently rejected the plan and Jane Murphy replaced Cllr Cotton as leader after the latter resigned.

All aboard for railway fans

Picture: Phil Warrington

A conductor – complete with hat – kept a close watch as hundreds of train buffs enjoyed a model railway exhibition in Wallingford.

Cholsey and Wallingford Railway recently hosted the hands-on event for Mayor Mick Kidley's railway show.

Children – and some adults – drove the model trains and there was information on the railway's plans to develop the station at Wallingford.

Vice-chairman Tony Stead said: "It was so great to see and talk to so many people from Wallingford and the surrounding area.

"There was lots of interest in the future plans for the railway and the rebuilding of a station building in Wallingford."

Membership secretary Sherwin Smith added: "It was pleasing to get a number of new and renewing members."

An open day will be held on Saturday for a behind-the-scenes look at the railway.

Visit cholsey-wallingford-railway.com for more information.

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Children bitten by dog near a travellers' camp

By George Welch

POLICE patrols have been increased in Witney after dogs near a travellers' site bit three people.

A 13-year-old boy and eight-year-old girl are among those bitten after a camp was set up at the site last Monday.

There have so far been reports of five incidents which occurred on Tuesday and Wednesday last week in Newlands Field.

Thames Valley Police confirmed that "three people sustained minor injuries as a result of a dog bite".

Neighbourhood Policing Inspector Steve Hookham, based at Witney Police Station, moved to reassure residents.

He said: "I would like to reassure the public that we are thoroughly investigating these incidents.

"I am aware that incidents of this nature are worrying to local residents and my officers will be conducting regular patrols in the area."

It is understood that a gate had been removed from the field at the end of last week. A chain and padlock was put in the gate's place.

However, the chain and unbroken padlock had been scattered across the ground at the field's entrance.

Landowner Witney Town Council served the travellers with a notice for vacation and, as we went to press, the travellers had moved to Deer Park.

The RSPCA hit out at authorities for doing 'very little'.

In a now-deleted Facebook post, RSPCA Oxfordshire said: "Was always going to happen…..this should not be a problem for charities or voluntary organisations to deal with.

"What are the police and local authorities doing about it, very little again no doubt....." [sic]

Wood Green School, next to Newlands Field, sent out an email warning parents of animals acting unpredictably.

It read: "A travelling community has arrived on King George's field [same field] in Newland. As this is a regular route home for many of our students I wanted to make you aware, as there may be animals in the field which may react unpredictably to distractions.

"It might be wise to discuss with your child, a route home which avoids the field for the time being."

Contact police on 101 with information.

Oxford voted third worst station by passengers

MANY frustrated commuters frequently waiting for trains at Oxford station will be saying 'I told you so'.

Oxford Rail Station has been named the third worst train station in England, according to data released by watchdog Transport Focus.

Data shows that just 67 per cent of passengers were 'satisfied' with the Park End Street station's services.

This was the third lowest figure recorded across the UK, the worst being Glasgow Queen Street at 58 per cent followed by Gatwick Airport at 66 per cent.

Of the findings, Transport Focus chief executive Anthony Smith said: "Investment in stations can improve passengers' satisfaction when targeted at features which make a difference to their experience.

"Passengers' top priorities for stations include arrival time information, waiting rooms and the overall look and feel of the station."

Transport Focus spoke to 28,940 passengers at Britain's rail stations between September and November 2017 as part of the National Rail Passenger Survey.

Results are based on the 56 stations where at least 100 people responded.

The top five stations were: London King's Cross, 96 per cent; London St Pancras, 95 per cent; Birmingham New Street, 92 per cent; Reading, 92 per cent and London Marylebone, 91 per cent.

Go to tinyurl.com/y7p7gdzd for more.

InBrief

Screening errors

ERRORS which meant 450,000 women were not asked to attend breast cancer screening when they should have been were first picked up by Oxford University.

Health secretary Jeremy Hunt told the House of Commons last week the issue was identified by people working on a trial for the university.

Mr Hunt said a computer algorithm failure was to blame and up to 270 women may have died because they did not receive invitations.

An independent review has been ordered and Mr Hunt has apologised to the women and their families.

All can love tennis

TENNIS players will be getting in the swing of things this weekend as part of an initiative by Great British Tennis encouraging people to take up the sport.

More than a dozen Better Tennis Courts across the county will open their doors with fun activities ranging from taster sessions with coaches to free equipment and access to courts.

Visit better.org.uk for more.

Hot dogs in cars

MAN'S best friend is unlikely to reciprocate the friendship in Oxfordshire after animal welfare charity RSCPA received reports about four dogs stuck in hot cars during the bank holiday weekend.

Temperatures soared to 28 C during the hottest early May bank holiday on record.

RSPCA campaign manager Holly Barber said: "Our main advice to passers-by is to call 999 if they're concerned about an animal in a hot environment."

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Extra help for search and rescue team

SEARCH and rescue operations in Oxfordshire have been given a boost with the donation of a new incident control vehicle.

The van has been fully operational for two months and has already assisted in Oxfordshire Lowland Search and Rescue team's rapid response to eight incidents across the region.

The vehicle, part financed by Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks' Resilient Communities Fund, is kitted out with cutting edge technology and has extra space for medical and rescue equipment.

OxSAR chairman Jonathan Stephenson-Paul is delighted with the new van.

He said: "This has already made us more efficient, safer and improved our workflow. It has made a huge difference supporting the work and dedication of our outstanding volunteer team."

Lucy Anderson, SSEN's customer relationship manager said: "The work of Oxfordshire Lowland Search and Rescue is well recognised across the region and it's wonderful to be able to further boost the essential service its teams provide by using the SSEN Resilient Communities Fund to help them purchase and kit out the vehicle.

"The benefits this new vehicle brings to OxSAR and – in turn – to the communities it serves can't be underestimated."

The OxSAR team can mobilise a volunteer team within an hour when called out by Thames Valley Police.

Great help: Lucy Anderson, SSEN's customer relationship manager and OxSAR chairman, Jonathan Stephenson-Paul with the newly kitted-out rescue vehicle

Farmer to walk Pennine Way for charity

A SOUTH Oxfordshire farmer will not plough a lonely furrow on his 268 mile trek for charity as he will be joined by members of his family.

Mark Wiseman, who has worked at Cumber Farms in Marcham for 31 years, will walk the Pennine Way later this month to raise funds for farming charity R.A.B.I.

But Mark will not have to cross hills, moors and bogs alone over the 18 day challenge.

Sister Natasha and her partner Mike Kenyon will join Mark on his journey across Britain's first national trail raising money for MIND and Prostate Cancer UK respectively.

Mark said: "No doubt we'll walk a bit further as some of the hostels and campsites are off trail and we may take the odd wrong turn.

"We travel to Edale on May 26 and will begin walking on the 27th.

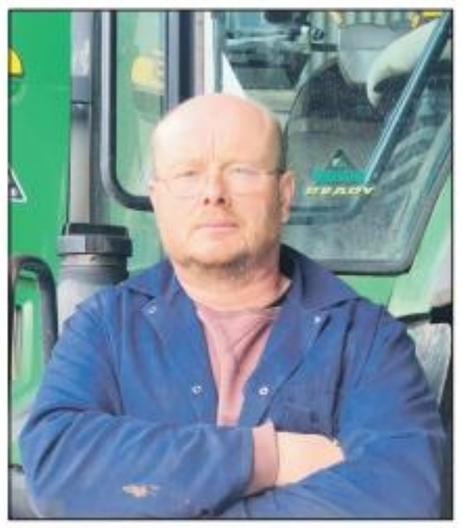
"If all goes to plan we should arrive in Kirk Yetholm on June 15."

The trio have prepared for their adventure with regular 23 mile walks on Sundays.

In 2012, Mark and Natasha walked the 192 mile Coast to Coast path for Mesothelioma UK.

Mark's original plans to walk the Pennine Way were postponed in 2017 when his friend, employer and R.A.B.I trustee William Cumber died.

To support Mark, visit https://bit.ly/2FH144P



Family trek: Mark Wiseman

Illegal scrap metal dealing fine

By George Welch

A BIRMINGHAM man has been fined nearly £1,500 for illegal scrap metal dealing in Abingdon.

Ionel Petcu, of Winson Green, admitted to council officers he was collecting scrap metal without appropriate licences, after being seen driving around the area in November last year.

Vale of White Horse District Council prosecuted and he was found guilty at Oxford Magistrates' Court on Tuesday last week of two charges related to dealing in scrap metal without a licence.

He was fined £500 for each offence and ordered to pay a contribution to costs of £350 and a victim surcharge of £50.

Two officers from the district council's environmental protection team saw two occupants of a white Ford Transit Van acting suspiciously in Stratton Way, Abingdon at around 10.30am on November 30 last year.

The men were appearing to search for scrap metal in residents' gardens and bin areas.

The council officers spoke to the two men, who confirmed they were collecting scrap metal without the appropriate licences.

Petcu, the driver of the van, was issued with a fixed penalty notice for not having a waste carriers licence and for the unlicensed collection of scrap metal. He failed to pay the fixed penalty notice so the Vale's legal team decided to prosecute.

Petcu also failed to turn up to his court appearance last week.

Cllr Elaine Ware, cabinet member for housing and environment for the Vale, said: "There are strict laws and regulations around the collection and disposal of scrap metal.

"This is to prevent against metal theft and fly tipping to protect our environment and the area we live in.

"This man's actions undermine legitimate scrap metal collectors and waste removal companies operating in the Vale.

"I hope this case shows that the council will not tolerate this kind of blatant disregard for the law when it comes to the protection of our environment."

The second man received a caution.

Fined: Ionel Petcu was searching gardens for scrap

InBrief

Knife threat arrest

A MAN has been arrested after a 23-year-old was threatened with an eight inch knife as he walked through an alleyway in Grove.

The victim was stopped by two men between Cane Lane and Saville Way who demanded to know what was in his bag.

One of the offenders then produced a knife which was about 8ins long with holes along a straight blade, police said.

The offender then swung the knife at the victim before kicking him in the head in the incident on April 16 at around 9pm.

A 28-year-old man from Wantage has been arrested on suspicion of attempted robbery. He is currently in police custody.

U3A celebrations

SINGING, a ukulele group and a poem about Didcot Power Station's chimneys marked the fifth anniversary of Didcot & District U3A.

Town mayor Jackie Billington and South East region trustee Bob Duckmanton attended the celebrations last month which were topped off with a stunning cake and some fizz.

The cake, which was designed and made by a member, was decorated with symbols of the more than 30 interest groups which members enjoy.

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Pupils rewarded for thinking of rubbish names for trucks

By George Welch

FOOD waste trucks fabulously named Munching Molly and Trashosaurus made special stops to two primary schools to visit pupils who came up with their names.

Children at John Blandy School in Southmoor and Manor School in Didcot were delighted to see the trucks with their suggested names printed on the side and front.

The trucks are part of a fleet of 12 which were named by public vote after South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse District Councils challenged primary school children in both districts to come up with a list of suggestions.

Trashosaurus – suggested by George Hopkins in Year 5 at Manor School – was voted most popular in South Oxfordshire, and Munching Molly – put forward by a Year 1 pupil at John Blandy School – came out top in the Vale.

The children who put forward these names each won a family swimming pass for the council-run leisure centre near them and £150 of book tokens for their school.

The naming challenge was set to celebrate the introduction of the new food waste trucks by the councils' contractors Biffa.

Residents will now see the trucks, with their names printed on, out and about collecting food waste across the two districts.

Cllr Caroline Newton, SODC cabinet member for housing and environment, visited Manor School and met Trashosaurus along with winner George and his class.

She said: "It has been wonderful to visit the Manor School and see the children's reaction to the lorry with the name Trashosaurus printed on.

"They had lots of questions about the trucks and food waste recycling, and were clearly very excited to see the truck named.

"This whole initiative has been a great way of spreading the recycling message and raising awareness about food waste recycling and why it's so important for people to do this."

Cllr Elaine Ware, the Vale's counterpart, added: "It's fabulous for the children to get to see the names printed on the trucks and they deserve to feel proud."

During 2017/18 the food waste trucks in the two districts collected more than 10 tonnes of food waste.

Absolute rubbish: Trashosaurus visited The Manor School, Didcot and Munching Molly dropped by John Blandy School, Southmoor

InBrief

Find good Samaritan

POLICE are on the look out for a good Samaritan who rescued a woman being assaulted in Dorchester-on-Thames.

Thames Valley Police described the incident as a 'domestic-related assault' in which the victim was shaken to the ground and hit while on the floor in Henley Road.

A member of the public then intervened and drove the victim away from the incident, which took place at around 11.50am on Tuesday, April 10.

TVP is asking the man to come forward as he may have 'crucial information'.

A statement read: "The member of the public picked the victim up off the ground and drove her away from danger in a silver car.

"He is described as around 5ft 9in tall with short grey hair and wearing a red t-shirt."

Investigating officer PC Shahed Ali added: "My aim is to try and identify the man who came to the victims' assistance, so he can help with our investigation. The man is unknown to us, but he helped the victim in a distressing situation, and no doubt would have useful information."

Call police on 101 quoting 43180106546 if you have any information.

>> Feeding time for penguins at wildlife park
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Star's family want tributes to be removed

THE family of pop sensation George Michael has asked fans to take down tributes left outside the singer's two homes.

The Wham! star was found dead at his riverside house in Goring on Christmas Day 2016.

Impromptu memorials at the south Oxfordshire home and at his Highgate home in north London have become international tourist attractions.

But in a post on his official website, his family said he "would not want to disturb or change the quiet neighbourhoods he so loved".

They asked fans to pick up their tributes, which include flowers and framed pictures of the singer, by May 27.

The statement asked Michael fans, who call themselves Lovelies, to make donations to charity instead, "so we can return both Mill Cottage [in Goring] and The Grove to their former simple state".

Michael's father Jack Panos, sisters Mel and Yioda Panayiotou, and his friend David Austin said in the statement they were "touched by your many tributes celebrating and remembering" him.

They added: "However, we feel we cannot expect our Highgate and Goring neighbours to continue to accept as normality, the memorials so personal to you all, to remain as and where they are any longer."

It is not yet known how this will impact Michael's birthday on June 25, with fans from around the world expected to visit Goring to pay their respects.

Drayman calls time on his beer delivery

A DRAYMAN from Greene King's Abingdon depot has retired after 49 years of delivering beer to pubs across the region.

Terence Neal, known to his colleagues as Tex, was presented with a personalised commemorative bottle of Old Speckled Hen beer and specially created cask beer pump clip featuring his name, on his last day.

The business downed tools last month to mark the occasion at the Nuffield Way depot before hosting a party for Tex.

Current and former employees of the depot who have worked with him over the years were invited.

David Carr, head of operations for Greene King, said: "Forty-nine years of loyal service is a phenomenal achievement by anyone's standards and we wish him a long and enjoyable retirement.

"Tex is a hugely likeable chap and will be missed by his colleagues and customers alike, many of whom he has visited every week for many years."

Cheers: Tex Neal presented with his named bottle of Old Speckled Hen by colleague Paul Gregson

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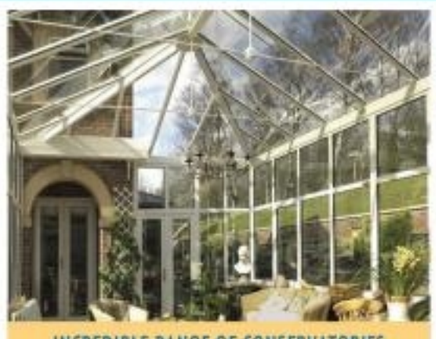
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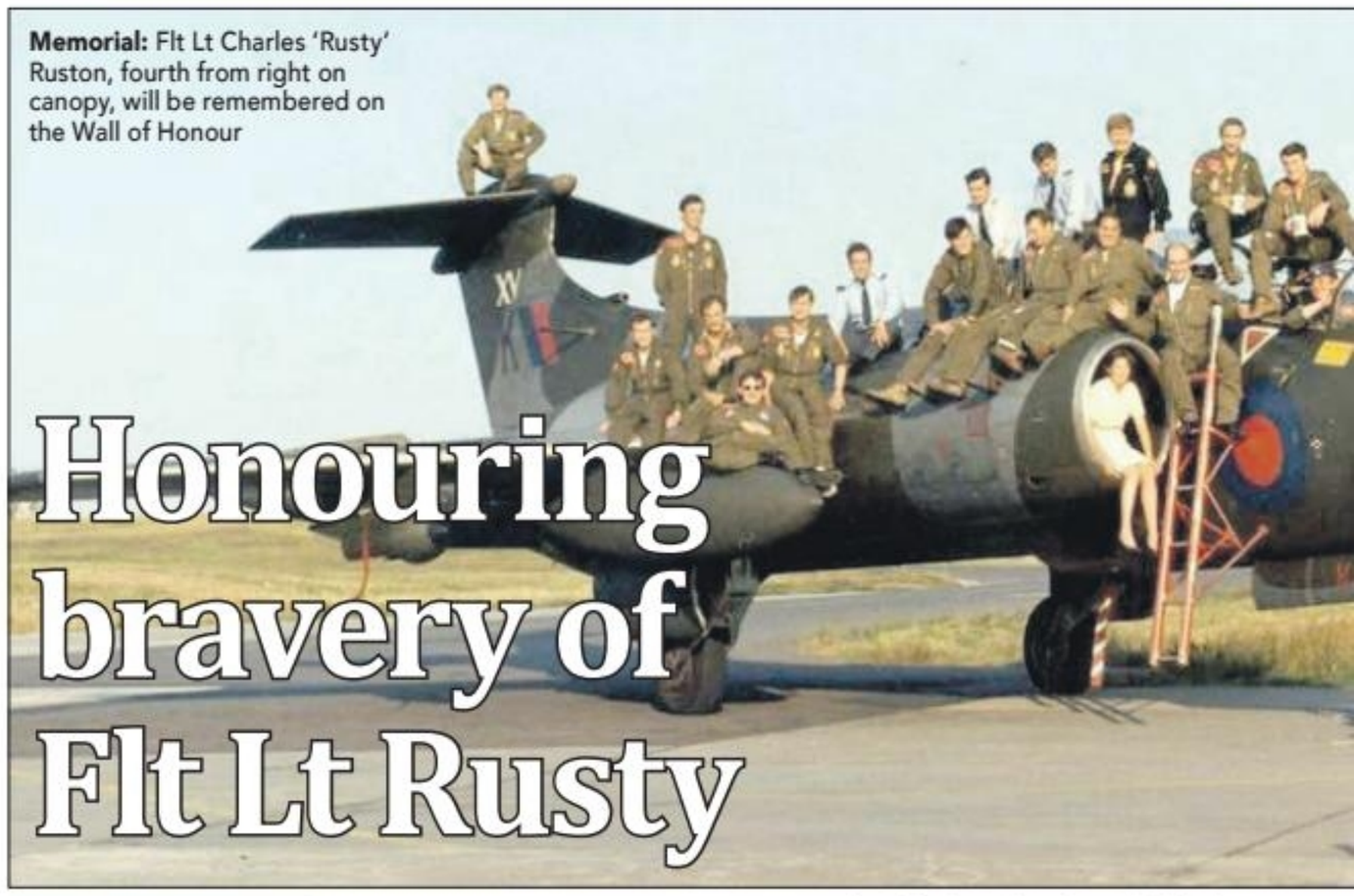

Memorial: Flt Lt Charles 'Rusty' Ruston, fourth from right on canopy, will be remembered on the Wall of Honour

Honouring bravery of Flt Lt Rusty

"It is right that we pay homage to those like Rusty who gave their lives in preparation for a conflict not yet realised"

RBLI chief executive Brigadier Steve Sherry

By George Welch

A FIGHTER jet navigator who achieved his boyhood dreams of a life in the skies before dying during a training exercise will be honoured for the first time through a unique commemorative campaign.

Flight Lieutenant Charles 'Rusty' Ruston became a Flying Officer in 1974 before being killed aged 29 in an advanced combat exercise near Las Vegas, six years later.

Flt Lt Ruston died after failing to eject before the aircraft hit the ground. A violent manoeuvre caused the right outer wing to separate from the airframe leaving the plane uncontrollable.

No physical memorial has been established for Rusty – until now.

Rusty, who was survived by his then-pregnant wife and daughter, will have his name placed on a special commemorative wall to be unveiled on Armistice Day in November.

The remembrance project offers members of the public the opportunity

Assault course challenge for play park

WITNEY parents clambered, crawled and climbed their way through a tricky assault course to raise funds for an inclusive play area.

A team of 15 Madley Park parents joined together as Team AMP to tackle a gruelling obstacle course raising more than £1,000 towards Activate:MadleyPark's target for the play park.

The session, run by Gareth from FITBeing at Eynsham Hall, put participants through their paces with a log-carrying and tyre-bashing cardio set.

The mud-covered rain-soaked parents took on a variety of challenges such as clinging to rope crossings, scrambling through tyres and wading through streams.

Motivated by their £1,000 sponsorship target, the fearless group climbed up, through and over various obstacles before conquering a pond crossing while shivering in the 9 degree temperature.

The team's original plans to take on the Monster Race at Cornbury Park were dashed when the company went into liquidation earlier this year.

Activate:MadleyPark is aiming to raise a total of £132,000 towards the new play area.

The plans for the play area include a wheelchair accessible trampoline, roundabout, sensory panels and accessible picnic table, in addition to a new climbing frame with slide and skate park.

To donate to the bootcamp team's fundraising page, visit: https://bit.ly/2KsnjPo

Legacy: Charles Ruston, second left at back, with his family

to have their name, or the name of a loved one, engraved onto a plaque for £100 – all of which will go to helping veterans through charity Royal British Legion Industries services.

Rusty's sister, Lindy Henry, who has lived in Carterton for 33 years, said it is a 'privilege' to honour his bravery.

The 64-year-old said: "He was always willing to give his life if necessary – we are all enormously proud of him.

"To be able to leave a legacy behind in honour of Charlie's life is something we are all just simply proud to be able to do."

The Wall of Honour will be unveiled in the RBLI's memorial garden in Aylesford, Kent on November 11 – precisely 100 years on from the end of the First World War.

Lindy said: "Just thinking about how I might feel brings me to tears. I know he will be just one name in a wall of many others, but it will be enough to know that it will long outlast us.

"And who knows, maybe some future generation – yet unborn – will visit and remember him.

"We keep him alive as much as we can now and hopefully that will continue."

RBLI's chief executive Brigadier Steve Sherry said: "It is right that we pay homage to those like Rusty who gave their lives in preparation for a conflict not yet realised.

"We are immensely proud to be able to offer the Wall of Honour as a place of permanent remembrance to the family of Flight Lieutenant Charles 'Rusty' Ruston."

InBrief

Fined for dog mess

A DOG owner has been fined £400 for failing to remove mess her dog had left on public land.

Toni Brayfield of Westfield, Harwell, was fined £170 and ordered to pay £230 costs for breaching the Dogs (Fouling of Land) Act 1996.

Ms Brayfield was prosecuted after a resident contacted Vale of White Horse District Council in September 2017 after seeing Ms Brayfield repeatedly letting her dog foul the public land.

An environmental officer visited the area and then wrote to Ms Brayfield about the issue. She failed to pay the fixed penalty notice and was then prosecuted.

Cllr Elaine Ware, cabinet member for housing and environment at Vale of White Horse District Council, said: "Anyone in charge of a dog is responsible for making sure mess is cleared up and disposed of correctly.

"Failing to do this shows a complete lack of regard for the environment, everyone in the local community, and also badly lets down all responsible dog owners."

Cow theft at farm

A COW has been stolen from a farm leaving its calf behind.

Police are on the hunt for the Hereford Cow which was stolen from Folly Farm, Common Road in Beckley, north of Headington.

It is believed the cow, described as red with a white face, has been stolen because it has gone missing while its calf is still in the field.

It disappeared between 8am on April 29 and 8am the following day.

Call police on 101 quoting 43180131509 if you have any information.

Man attacked car

A MAN got out of his vehicle on the A420 and hit and dented a passing car as it overtook him.

He damaged the roof of the overtaking car close to the junction for Littleworth near Faringdon.

The incident happened at about 9.30am on April 28.

The man was driving a green Fiat 500 car and was described as white, in his mid-forties, with brown hair and a medium build.

Call police on 101 quoting reference 43180127417 with information.

Nativity auditions

IT is time for young performers to sparkle and shine for next month's auditions for hit musical Nativity!

The show, based on the popular Christmas film, arrives at the New Theatre Oxford in December, and producers are looking for talented youngsters to star.

Writer Debbie Isitt said she wants 'characterful but disciplined' children who can act 'snobby and superior'.

Oxford auditions take place on Saturday, June 9. Visit tinyurl.com/yb86tf8m for more information.

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News

Health check scores with fans

Oxford United hold awareness-raising exercise

By Owen Hughes

FOOTBALL fans in Oxford have been sent for an early shower after supporters undertook a matchday MOT last month.

One in 10 Oxford United fans who received a free NHS mini health check at the home game against Oldham were given a red card and advised to book a GP appointment.

A further 10 per cent of the 248 supporters who took advantage of the check up were given the green-light, meaning no follow-up action was recommended.

The remaining 80 per cent were given an amber rating after the awareness-raising exercise by Oxfordshire County Council's Public Health team.

Ratings were based on blood pressure readings and Body Mass Index (BMI) figures.

Oxford United managing director Niall McWilliams undertook the test himself prior to the game.

He said: "Taking steps to educate ourselves about keeping fit and healthy is imperative.

"Men, especially, can be reticent about their physical health but to achieve a good quality of life it is crucial to take up the NHS Health Check offered by your GP practice."

Cabinet member for public health and education, Hilary Hibbert-Biles, said: "We're delighted with the level of engagement and participation from the Oxford fans, some of whom may now have some extra motivation to focus a bit more on their long-term health.

"We were really pleased that 75 per cent of fans who got themselves checked were men."

Full NHS checks are available for anyone aged between 40 and 74 without pre-existing conditions provided by GP surgeries.

Take Pride in whoever you are at city's inclusive festival

OXFORD will be dazzled by drag and besotted with burlesque when Pride festivities return later this month.

Celebrating Oxford Pride from May 25 to June 3, producer and host Ginger Tart will bring cabaret OxPHWOARd to town, jam-packed with subversive drag and burlesque.

Ginger said: "Representation is a real issue in the LGBT community.

"All too often the only type of LGBT people we see in the media are cis, white, able bodied gay men.

"I wanted to change the narrative and create a more inclusive atmosphere that speaks to a wider range of people.

"Our cast features women, trans and gender non-conforming people, people of colour and people with disabilities. It's important to show that LGBT minorities do exist and they're amazing and clever and creative.

"Pride is for everyone, so why not prove it with our performers?"

Lily Belle and Benjamin Butch with perform at the event, while Pi the Mime and Rubyyy Jones will host character and performance workshops.

OxPHWOARd has been running for two years celebrating diversity by bringing together people of different genders, sexualities, ethnicities and disabilities in the LBTQIA+ community.

OxPHWOARd will take place on May 31 at the Old Fire Station as part of the Oxford Pride Festival.

Celebrating diversity: Oxford drag collective at the Bridge of Sighs
Picture: *Chris Cosby Media*

Pet company boss fined for ill treatment

A PET care service in south Oxfordshire has been fined following the death of a dog in its care.

Simon Herbert, 50, of Cane End, pleaded guilty to running an unlicensed animal boarding establishment at Oxford Magistrates' Court on Tuesday last week.

Herbert, of Simon's Pet Services, based near Woodcote, was fined £300 and ordered to pay £700 in costs.

South Oxfordshire District Council investigated the company, which offers dog walking, dog day care and a cat feeding home service, in 2016 following four complaints from dog owners which included the death of a dog, the escape of two dogs from the premises and the physical and emotional care of a puppy.

The investigation discovered several breaches of the licence conditions – and his application to renew it in January 2017 was refused.

However, Herbert refused to appeal the decision and continued to care for 'between four and six dogs' since.

Cllr Caroline Newton, SODC'S cabinet member for environment, said: "Anybody looking after animals has a legal and moral duty to provide a decent level of care.

"We will prosecute anybody who doesn't maintain the levels of care expected by the council and by the pets' owners."

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Singing along with Gruffalo

AWARD-WINNING children's author Julia Donaldson joined hundreds of school pupils in a musical extravaganza.

The creator of The Gruffalo gave three performances of songs inspired by her famous stories, alongside her husband Malcolm and 900 youngsters from 28 schools across Oxfordshire.

Packed audiences of family and friends joined in with much-loved characters from tales such as Room on the Broom, Monkey Puzzle, and of course, the Gruffalo himself.

Julia and Malcolm were invited to perform with Oxfordshire school children, who learnt the songs in music lessons.

Julia said: "A lot of people don't know that before I wrote any books I was a song writer. I was thrilled when I heard that lots of children from Oxfordshire schools would be performing these songs and they invited me and my husband Malcolm to join in the performance."

She added: "It was a really, really great day. Something just a bit different and I've had a lovely time."

Jess Gray, from the Music Service, said it was "a day to remember for everyone involved".

The event took place at the county's Centre for Music in Headington.

Children's favourite: Julia Donaldson performs with the Gruffalo

PC quit after nightclub fracas

By George Welch

THE behaviour of a police constable who was thrown out of a nightclub and fought with bouncers amounted to gross misconduct, a hearing found.

Thames Valley Police said former officer Ryan Field, who was based at the Oxford investigation hub, was off-duty in Banbury when he fought with door staff.

While under the influence of alcohol he kicked one member of staff 'with considerable force on his shin,' the panel heard.

Field resigned on April 17 before his hearing at TVP's headquarters in Kidlington on Thursday last week.

The special case misconduct hearing, chaired by Chief Constable Francis Habgood determined that the former officer had breached the standards of professional behaviour in respect of discreditable conduct.

In a statement, police said Field "intervened in a disturbance by shouting and grappling with security staff" at the nightclub in the early hours of February 19.

Staff ejected him from the premises, but he continued to "behave in an aggressive manner" and kicked one of the men at the door.

The Chief Constable said Field would have been dismissed from the force had he still been a serving officer and TVP will submit his details to be placed on the College of Policing's Barred List.

Deputy Chief Constable John Campbell said Field "behaved in such a manner likely to bring discredit upon the police service which would have undermined the public's confidence in us".

"There can never be a place for this behaviour in our force," he added.

In a separate case, another former officer who looked up the criminal history of his ex-partners' new boyfriends was found to have committed gross misconduct.

At another special hearing last Thursday, the male officer, only referred to as Officer A, accessed the Police National Computer and Thames Valley Police's Niche database.

He was said to have taken information from them for a 'non-policing' purpose.

No longer a serving officer, he would have been sacked if he was still in the force, the panel said.

His details will now be placed on the College of Policing's Barred List.

He accessed details improperly between January 3, 2015 and October 14, 2015.

InBrief

Night train service

CHILTERN Railways, which runs trains from Oxford Parkway to London Marylebone, has announced a new late-night service on Fridays.

It will be part of the summer and autumn timetable, which comes into effect on Sunday May 20.

The new service will depart at 11.35pm, stopping at Oxford Parkway, Bicester Village and High Wycombe. The new timetable will include 1,360 more seats for weekday peak-time journeys.

Visit tinyurl.com/yaa2j25j for more information.

£79k Audi stolen

THIEVES stole a blue Audi RS6 sports car from an address in north Oxfordshire.

Police said the theft of the vehicle, which has a recommended retail price of £79,000, happened at an address at Balscote on Friday between 1.25am and 1.41am. The registration plate is X29 MJW.

Call police on 101 with information.

Safety award

A COLLEGE has been rewarded for upholding the highest safety standard.

Abingdon & Witney College has been given the gold achievement award by the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents.

Awards will be handed out at a ceremony in Birmingham in July.

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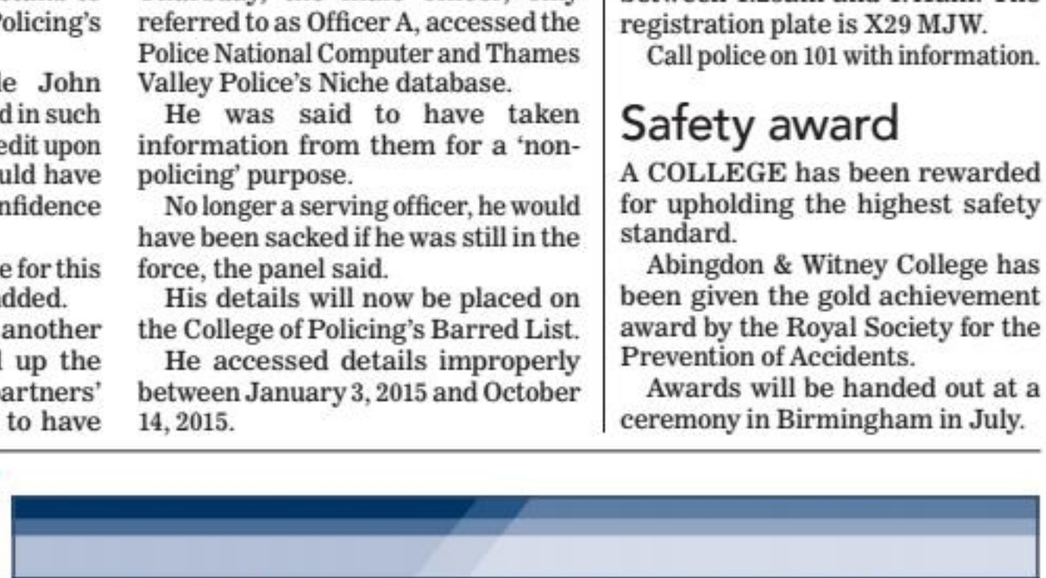

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News

Businesses given Queen's Award

By George Welch

TWO Oxfordshire businesses will rub shoulders with royalty after being awarded prestigious Queen's Awards for enterprise.

Grove-based Williams Advanced Engineering, the business arm of the Formula 1 team, is in pole position after being recognised for its Formula E battery technology.

Abingdon's business development firm Intralink scooped its award for its 'outstanding achievements' in overseas trade, innovation, sustainable development and social mobility.

The Queen's Awards for Enterprise are the UK's most prestigious business awards, recognising and celebrating business excellence across the country.

Williams has powered all the cars on the Formula E grid since it began in 2014. Now in its fourth season, the championship has benefited from technology developed by the firm, which boasts of a "99.8 per cent reliability record in races from the company's batteries".

The current generation of Formula E cars can travel at 140mph and Williams says batteries remain practical in terms of aerodynamics, range, recharging times and safety in research and commercial applications.

Managing director Craig Wilson believes the company is "delivering a world-first that will light the way for future sustainable transport".

He added: "I pay tribute to our team that has powered Formula E from the beginning at such a high level of innovation, performance, service and reliability."

Intralink is an international business development consultancy specialising in East Asia.

Royal appointment: Intralink CEO Greg Sutch is proud of the award

It helps Western businesses expand in China, Japan, South Korea and Taiwan and Asian companies to expand in the West.

In recent years the global business, based in Blacklands Way, has supported two local charities, Homeless Oxfordshire and The Abingdon Bridge, which supports the wellbeing of young people.

Greg Sutch, Intralink's CEO, said his team are "thrilled to have won such a significant accolade".

He added: "It's a wonderful recognition of our distinctive approach and the talent and hard work of our employees.

"We're all immensely proud of this award – and looking forward to telling the Queen more about Intralink later this summer."

Representatives from both Intralink and Williams have been invited to meet the Queen at Buckingham Palace to collect the award this summer.

The Queen said: "The awards are widely recognised as a highly valued mark of excellence, across many sectors, in a diverse and competitive business market."

Expressway effect on wildlife could be 'devastating'

THE proposed Oxford to Cambridge corridor has the potential to have 'devastating effects' on wildlife, a charity has warned.

The Berks, Bucks & Oxon Wildlife Trust has warned all three proposed routes could be damaging.

It has asked Highways England to do a Strategic Environment Assessment (SEA) and hold a full public consultation on the route options.

Neil Clennell, director of conservation and education in Oxfordshire, said: "If the SEA is not undertaken before a preferred corridor is selected, the opportunity to fully scrutinise the comparative impacts of all possible expressway routes will be lost."

The trust's most serious concerns are for designated sites and nature reserves in the areas of Cothill Fen near Abingdon, Oxford Meadows, the Otmoor Basin near Bicester and the Upper Ray Valley and Bernwood Forest in Buckinghamshire.

Oxford West and Abingdon MP Layla Moran, Henley MP John Howell, Oxfordshire MEP Keith Taylor, former Oxford City Council leader Bob Price and the Expressway Action Group have all called for a public consultation.

Campaign to Protect Rural England called for a public enquiry in February.

The proposed expressway is currently in the research phase and Highways England is expected to announce its preferred route in July.

InBrief

No honours for city

OXFORD missed out at the Thames Valley Property Awards on Thursday where it was beaten to Town/City of the Year by Slough.

Westgate Oxford also lost out with The Lexicon, Bracknell, winning the development of the year category.

More than £11,000 was raised for Alexander Devine Children's Hospice in Maidenhead during the ceremony.

Best arts fest yet

THE 'biggest and best' Wantage Summer Arts Festival yet is coming to town next month.

The festival team has promised to make this year's festival 'something the area can be proud of'.

With more than 60 entries, the five-week event will feature concerts, art exhibitions and lectures from June 1 to July 7.

Visit wantagesummerartsfestival.com for more information.

Stonor supercars

THE peace and quiet of 850-year-old Stonor Park, near Henley, will be broken by the roar of supercars pulling into the pristine front lawn.

Everything from pioneering race cars to classic sports cars to modern hypercars will be on display as a tribute to passion, power and performance.

Stonor Supercar Sunday revs into south Oxfordshire on May 20.

Visit tinyurl.com/y9uy3d56 for more information and to buy tickets.

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News

Enjoy a pint and protect the bees

WITNEY-BASED brewers are all hands to the pump to save Britain's dwindling bee population.

Brakspear will serve its Honey Bee beer throughout May to raise money for Friends of the Earth's Bee Cause campaign.

For every pint sold the brewery will donate 10 pence to the campaign to protect declining bee numbers in Britain.

Last year, Brakspear presented a cheque for £2,890 to the charity.

The company is also encouraging customers to take part in the Great British Bee Count from May 17 to June 30.

Brakspear chief executive Tom Davies said: "We're delighted to be supporting the Bee Cause again; it's a cause that our licensees and customers are keen to support, as reflected in the growing demand for Honey Bee.

"Supporting Friends of the Earth's Bee Cause is a natural choice for Brakspear.

"We have a bee in our logo, and some of the finest pub gardens in the region, which rely on bees to pollinate the plants and shrubs that make them so attractive."

Friends of the Earth chief executive Craig Bennett said the charity is "extremely grateful" to the brewers.

"People can enjoy a pint of Honey Bee and know they are helping these precious pollinators," he added.

Cute chicks: Theodore and Houdini hide from the camera; main picture, Lucky goes for a waddle with a parent and below, feeding time

Jumping: Bird keeper Helen Lawless managed 72 jumps in 30 seconds
Pictures: *Rebecca Farrow*

Jumping for joy

By George Welch

A WADDLE of lovable penguins were in for a treat recently as Cotswold Wildlife Park celebrated the species at a special event.

Families were able to get up close to the Humboldt penguins as part of World Penguin Day.

There are 26 penguins at the west Oxfordshire park's colony, including three chicks from last year's breeding season.

Fans queued up for the feeding time experience when the penguins were treated to fish multiple times throughout the day.

There was a stall set up by the wildlife park team with a raffle and games to raise funds for the

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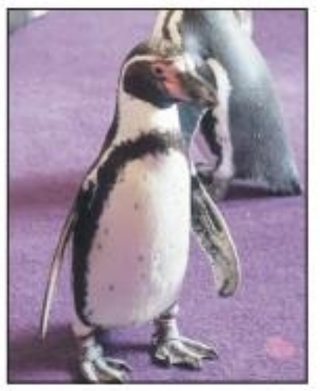
charity Sphenisco dedicated to the conservation of Humboldt penguins.

A world record attempt was also staged to mark the occasion in which bird keeper Helen Lawless was put to the test to see how many times she could 'penguin jump' in 30 seconds.

The keeper managed to beat the current number of about 53 and has submitted her attempt of 72 jumps.

Helen said the day was 'an absolute success'. She added: "Everyone had a fantastic time. The highlight being the public feed at midday when visitors had the opportunity to feed the penguins for a £1 donation to Sphenisco. Everyone loved getting up close and personal with our penguins and it was great to see so many smiling faces."

Making friends: Amazing Animals introduced penguins to residents and schoolchildren **Pictures:** *Louise Chandler*



The park's oldest penguin pair, Yogi and Dale, attracted lots of attention.

The couple, together for more than 20 years, produced a chick last breeding season called Lucky.

JJ and Ted also produced chicks last breeding season – Theodore and Houdini. It was the first time they parent-reared their own chicks.

In other penguin related news, two more Humboldt penguins – Widget and Pringle – proved a big hit as they pitter-pattered into a specialist dementia care home in Bampton.

Nearly 30 Year 2 children from Witney Community Primary School joined staff and guests at Rosebank Care Home to celebrate World Penguin Day on April 25.

InBrief

Brewing first lager

A BREWERY which has made ale in the Cotswolds for more than 150 years has produced its first lager.

The trial batch has been produced by west Oxfordshire's Hook Norton Brewery.

Managing director James Clarke said he "would never have thought" they would one day brew a lager when he first joined but added that "times and tastes change".

Business finalists

FINALISTS have been announced for the 2018 Oxfordshire Business Awards.

The 24th annual competition awards ceremony will take place at Oxford Brookes University's John Henry Brookes Building on June 15.

There are 13 individual award categories and all category winners have the chance to win The Hawkins Business of the Year award.

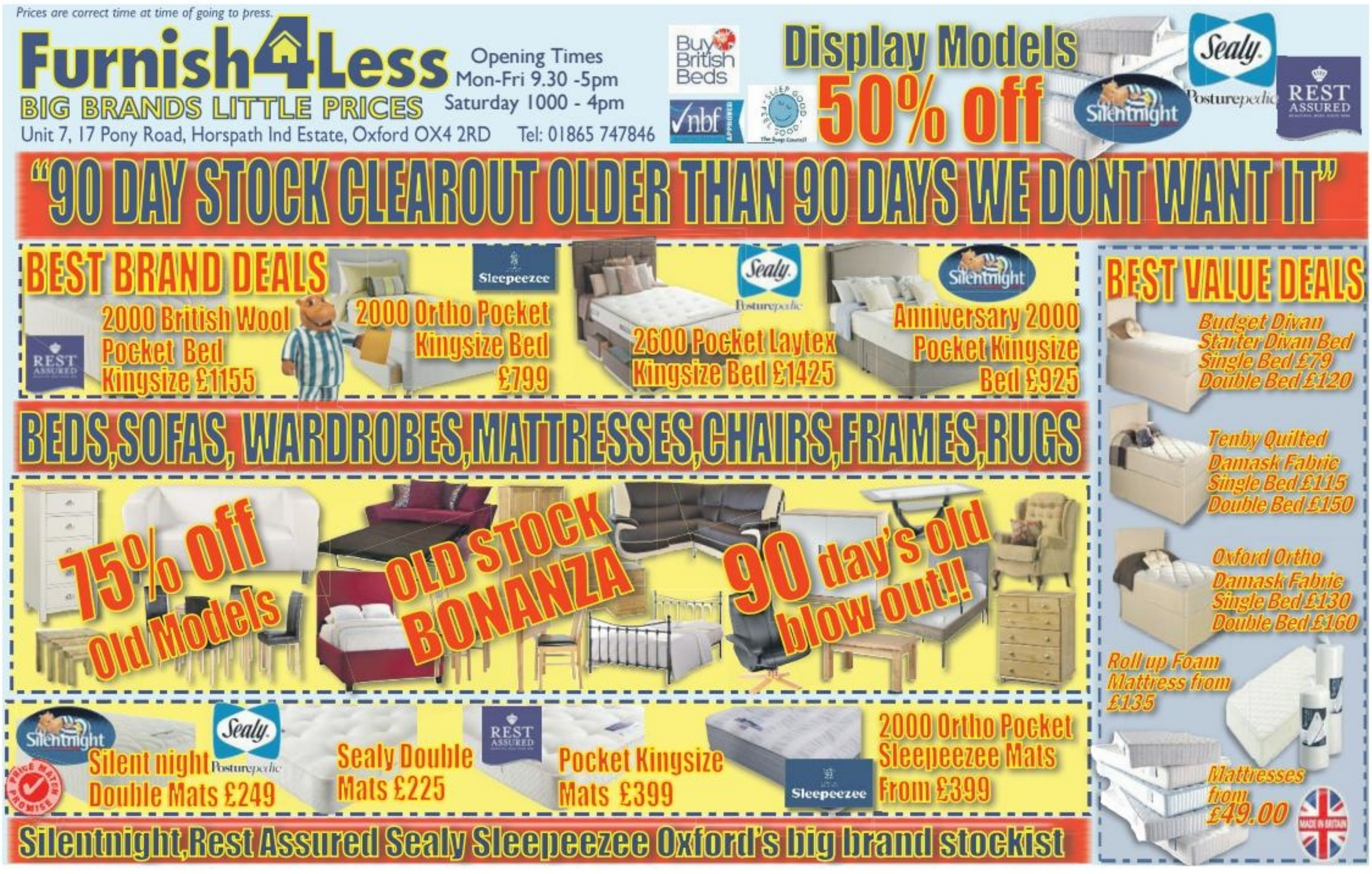
Visit oxfordshirebusinessawards.co.uk for a full list of finalists.

Fire closes street

AN entire street near Witney town centre was closed following a car fire.

Thames Valley Police said the car was on fire in Corn Street shortly after 10am on Wednesday last week.

Oxfordshire Fire and Rescue Service quickly extinguished the fire and the road reopened within the hour.



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Study shows the importance of out-of-hours GPs

OUT-OF-HOURS GPs see almost a third of people who die in Oxfordshire, according to a new study.

The research, published in the journal BMJ Open, found that a 'significant' number of people who died in the county had OOH care in the 30 days prior to their death.

A collaboration between Oxford University, Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust and Birmingham University, this is the first study in the UK to look at the extent of the role OOH GPs play in end-of-life care.

To do this, researchers examined anonymised patient medical records during a 12-month period in 2014/15.

Study lead Dr Gail Hayward, an Oxford-based GP and academic at Oxford University, said: "Many patients with a terminal illness wish to die at home rather than in hospital.

"It is important our patients receive the best possible access to care at the end of their life, regardless of the time of day or night they make the call for support.

"This study demonstrates the important role Oxfordshire's OOH GP services play in end-of-life care."

Across Oxfordshire, the OOH service provides urgent medical care from 6.30pm to 8am during the week, with 24-hour cover provided at weekends and bank holidays.

In 2017/18, 110,000 patients made 145,000 contacts with the service.

Giving back: Rory Barclay-Watt leads the runners, including brother Angus in blue, at Chandlings School

Pupils running to say thanks to Tom's Ward

AN Oxford school pupil and his friends ran the extra mile last month raising £650 for a children's ward at the John Radcliffe Hospital.

Rory Barclay-Watt completed a sponsored four-mile run to buy an X-box and other games and books for children on Tom's Ward.

The Year 4 pupil at Chandlings School completed the circuit in under 35 minutes alongside brother Angus, 12, and other friends.

Nine-year-old Rory suffered two stints on Tom's Ward in October 2017 after complications from a burst appendix.

After coming home following surgery, Rory had to go back into the ward for further treatment.

Rory said: "The doctors and nurses were so brilliant on Tom's Ward when I was there, that I wanted to do something to say thank you."

John Bradley, director of sport at the Kennington independent school, came up with the idea for the sponsored run.

Head of Chandlings, Christine Cook said the school is "so proud of Rory" for his resilience, determination "and most of all kindness".

"The organisation of the run with Rory's family epitomises our values at Chandlings and shows how we come together as a community in order to raise money for this fantastic cause."

InBrief

Powering the future

THE operator of Didcot B Power Station is looking for the next generation of employees to help shape the energy industry of the future.

RWE Generation is looking for entrants for its training programmes.

It wants 'enthusiastic' science, maths or engineering students to take up positions as engineering apprentices, including working on 'non-destructive testing'.

Visit tinyurl.com/ybfya3gb for more information.

Shoulder pain study

HUNDREDS of Oxfordshire residents will be invited to take part in a national study looking to improve treatment for debilitating shoulder pain.

Researchers will be asking for the help of GP surgeries as they look to recruit 500 residents to help find a way to ensure people receive the care that is best for them and avoid unnecessary treatments.

The programme is currently being set-up, with participant recruitment opening later this year.

Saying goodbye

GLOBAL charity The Mariposa Trust is helping to support couples who have lost a baby during pregnancy in Oxford at its Saying Goodbye service.

Parents can pay their respects to children through music, poetry and personal stories at Christ Church Cathedral on June 9 at 7.30pm.

Visit sayinggoodbye.org for more.

Students show their Zest for enterprise

By George Welch

IT was the battle of the businesses as students from across Oxfordshire competed to be named the county's company of the year.

Young Enterprise, a popular annual competition that aims to inspire the next generation, ended last week with a special prize-giving ceremony in Oxford.

The Lord Mayor of Oxford, Jean Fooks, handed out six prizes at The King's Centre to celebrate businesses and social enterprise set up and run by the youngsters over an academic year.

The overall winning team was Zest from Oxford High School.

The team had written, illustrated and produced a socially-conscious story book aiming to reverse taught prejudice against social minorities.

Runner-up team Think, from The Oxford Academy, set up a social enterprise aiming to tackle drug use and associated crimes in the Blackbird Leys area.

Both teams will represent Oxfordshire at the South Central Regional Company of the Year competition on June 21 at the University of Buckingham.

Cassandra Cardiff, Oxfordshire area manager for Young Enterprise, said: "The judges were extremely impressed by all the teams and the products they developed. Many of the young people taking part in the competition started this academic year with very little knowledge of how business works.

"They have grown into budding entrepreneurs with business prowess and a drive to make their ideas come alive."

Liz Marchant, editorial director for sponsor Taylor & Francis, said: "It was clear each group had thoroughly enjoyed the experience and very much deserved their place in the Oxfordshire finals.

"Congratulations and best of luck to Zest and Think as they represent Oxfordshire at the regional finals."

Overall winners: Oxford Lord Mayor Jean Fooks with Zest

Award winners

JSP Manufacturing Award: *Woodworx, Abingdon School*
Best Use of Digital Media Award: *Xylo, Abingdon School*
Carter Jonas Award for Best Presentation: *Zest, Oxford High School*
Institute of Directors Award for Best Trade Stand: *Xylo, Abingdon School*
Runner Up (sponsored by Taylor & Francis): *Think, The Oxford Academy*
Overall Winner (sponsored by Taylor & Francis): *Zest, Oxford High School*

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InBrief

Pubs boost for dogs

THE Fox Inn in Boars Hill donated a tail-wagging £1,200 to the Dogs Trust after their Christmas gift voucher campaign.

Only recently announcing the total raised, owners Epic Pubs said £6,000 was raised across its eight premises.

The money raised will go towards toys for stray and abandoned dogs while they wait to meet new families.

Homeless health

HEALTHWATCH Oxfordshire, the county's independent health and social care watchdog, has produced a video explaining how one patient participation group works to help homeless people in Oxford.

Patient Voices…Our Story looks at the work of the group of Luther Street Medical Centre, Oxford, a GP surgery which specialises in offering primary care to homeless people.

The four-minute film shows how homeless patients and the surgery work together to improve homeless services in Oxford.

Poetry translation

FREE events will be held to celebrate translated poetry and fiction on Oxford Translation Day at St Anne's College on June 8 and 9.

Workshops and talks will be held at the college and in other locations across the city. The event will culminate in the awarding of the Oxford-Weidenfeld Translation Prize.

Charity of the year 2018 – Helen & Douglas House

Golfer caps fundraising with show of support for hospice

By George Welch

ABINGDON golfing ace Eddie Pepperell will don the distinctive heart logo of Helen & Douglas House when he guns for glory on the European Tour later this month.

The 27-year-old has promised to wear a cap bearing the East Oxford hospice's logo during the PGA Championship at Wentworth and the Italian Open.

Pepperell, ranked 100th in the world, won the Qatar Masters in February with his first victory on the tour.

And millions will watch the Sutton Courtney man in Wentworth and Brescia later this month as the giving golfer raises awareness for our charity of the year.

Eddie, who recently visited Helen & Douglas House, said: "I decided to use the space on the front of my cap to raise awareness, and hopefully money, for a great cause.

"Helen & Douglas House was an obvious choice for me, as it's a local charity, and they look after children and young adults."

Oxfordshire Guardian & THE OXFORD PAPER Supporting Helen & Douglas House hospice care for children and young adults

He added: "I found visiting the hospice fascinating. Having had an entirely healthy childhood, and having never suffered any painful personal losses in my life, my eyes were opened to some of the truly fantastic and generous care that is out there for people who need it most.

"It is a brilliant charity."

Alison Stone, from the charity, said: "We are delighted that Eddie is supporting Helen & Douglas raising money for us and putting our logo on his caps – he has two which he will wear one white and one black.

"It was wonderful to meet him when he came for a tour of the hospice and hear more about why he wants to support us.

"He really wants to help local children whether it be supporting the junior players at Frilford Heath Golf Club or supporting local terminally ill children we care for."

Hole in one: Golfer Eddie Pepperell, with Alison Stone at Helen & Douglas House, will proudly wear the Helen & Douglas House logo on his caps at tournaments this month

The £7,000 raised so far will pay for an outreach nurse to make 233 visits to one of the families in need of support.

The PGA Championship tees off on May 24, seven days before the Italian Open. Both will be broadcast live on Sky Sports.

Donate to Eddie's £10,000 target at tinyurl.com/y8uaqp5r

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MP chooses health workers for NHS70

WANTAGE MP Ed Vaizey has announced the health and care workers he has nominated for national awards to mark the 70th anniversary of the NHS.

The NHS70 Parliamentary Awards were set up to recognise the contribution made by the individuals who work in and alongside the NHS.

MPs were asked to put forward outstanding nominees who have innovated, impressed and made a real difference to healthcare in the community.

Mr Vaizey has nominated:

- The Excellence in Cancer Care Award: Oxford SCAN Team
- The Excellence in Urgent and Emergency Care Award: Ambulatory Assessment Unit, John Radcliffe Hospital
- The Person-Centred Care Champion Award: Florian Stoermer
- The Future NHS Award, sponsored by hhruk: Neurosciences Intensive Care Unit
- The Healthier Communities Award: Oxford Health Health Visitors 0-5 Service
- The Care and Compassion Award: Jules Stockbridge
- The Patient and Public Involvement Award: Simon Cruden
- The Lifetime Achievement Award: Professor Christopher Redman

A regional champion will be announced in each category on May 21 after being judged by senior NHS figures with national winners crowned on July 4 in Parliament, the day before the NHS' 70th anniversary.

Team does the spadework on dementia site

WORK on the UK's first dedicated centre for research into the prevention of stroke and dementia has begun in Oxford.

A ground-breaking ceremony was held at the John Radcliffe Hospital which will become home to Oxford University's new neuroscience research facility.

The new building, will provide purpose-built facilities for the Wolfson Centre for the Prevention of Stroke and Dementia (CPSD), as well as research space for the Wellcome Centre for Integrative Neuroimaging (WIN).

Construction is expected to be completed in spring 2019.

Professor Peter Rothwell, head of the centre for the prevention of stroke and dementia, said the facility could lead to life-changing advances for patients.

Digging in: From left, Professor Peter Rothwell, head of the Centre for the Prevention of Stroke and Dementia, University of Oxford; a representative from SDC Builders; Dr Tony Berendt, Medical Director, Oxford University Hospitals; Professor Heidi Johansen-Berg, director of the Wellcome Centre for Integrative Neuroimaging, University of Oxford and Geoff Salt, vice chairman, Oxford University Hospitals

Medical director of Oxford University Hospitals Dr Tony Berendt, said: "We are extremely pleased the UK's first dedicated centre for stroke and dementia research will be at the John Radcliffe. Staff from Oxford University Hospitals and the University of Oxford already work closely together to translate the results of ground-breaking research into improved patient care."

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Out & About

Cutting it at the Fringe

By Josh Cox

THE end of June will bring all the best elements of Fringe festivals to Oxford.

Spread across eight days, more than 90 events and acts will take place at Oxford Playhouse and The Old Fire Station, Oxford.

Offbeat, created in 2016 also includes high profile comedians and 14 fabulous shows to enjoy before they head off to Edinburgh in August.

Now in its third year, Offbeat boasts an eclectic programme of theatre, music, dance, storytelling, family shows, comedy and circus; 16 of which are home grown in Oxfordshire.

The big comedy nights this year include David Baddiel in My Family: Not The Sitcom; Bridget Christie in What Now?; Desiree Burch in Unf*ckable and Laura Lexx in Trying.

There will also be The Great Offbeat Comedy Night composed of sketches and acts from Sara Pascoe, Ed Gamble, Phil Wang and newcomer Laura Pattinson.

The first Saturday (June 23) is designed specifically for the family with 12 shows programmed to intrigue and delight younger audiences. From Blue Planet III to The Actual Reality Arcade and subjects as diverse as politics and owls, the festival offers a wide range of shows at times which will enable young festival goers the opportunity to see several in one day.

Desiree Burch

Home grown shows feature verbatim theatre, a marathon play reading, theatre pub quiz, excerpts from seven of Oxford's playwrights and a plethora of quality comedy and theatre.

Other highlights include Denim, an outrageous drag musical cabaret act, starring Amrou Al-Kadhi, who appeared as Judy Henchman in the Playhouse panto last year.

Blowfish Theatre will be bringing their satirical Trump the Musical, filled with raucous comedy and, of course, a terrible wig.

The Foley Explosion is a rare opportunity to experience live sound effects and looping technology in sound worlds that conjure a movie in the mind.

Sara Pascoe
Picture: *Idil*

Hugely popular last year, Crying Out Loud and Circa Tsuica return with their highly talented international band of acrobats and musicians offering a thrilling contemporary circus spectacular under a star-studded big top on Oxpens Meadow.

Offbeat will again be partnering BBC Introducing with two evenings and a day of live music from local and emerging musicians.

The festival starts on Friday June 22 and will run until Sunday June 30 at venues including the Playhouse, Old Fire Station and Oxpens Meadow.

Most tickets are £10 or less.

More info can be found at offbeatoxford.co.uk

Minor characters in major roles

Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead was first performed by the Oxford Theatre Guild at the Edinburgh Fringe in August 1966.

Subsequent rave reviews lead the play, which was written by Tom Stoppard, to its professional debut at The Old Vic in 1967.

Now Sinodun Players, working with renowned director Lucy Pitman-Wallace, will give their version at Wallingford's Corn Exchange from Wednesday May 23 to Saturday May 26.

The play expands upon the exploits of two minor characters from Shakespeare's Hamlet, the courtiers Rosencrantz and Guildenstern.

The action of the play takes place mainly "in the wings" of Shakespeare's play, with brief appearances of major characters from Hamlet who enact fragments of the original's scenes.

Between these episodes, Rosencrantz and Guildenstern voice their confusion at the progress of events occurring onstage without them and become further bemused by the appearance of the troupe of actors and their enigmatic leader.

The show is both funny and thought-provoking and will form part of Sinodun Players 70th Anniversary year.

Adult tickets are £10. To book or for more information head to cornexchange.org.uk.

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The value of equity released in the UK last quarter hit record highs – could it help you in your retirement too?

Equity release continues to grow in popularity across the UK, with increasing numbers of over-55 UK homeowners turning to the wealth in their property as a means of providing a significant financial boost. The Equity Release Council have reported a 44pc annual increase in Q3 – amounting to £824 million in cash released – giving some indication of the staggering property wealth available in the UK[1].

If you are in the midst of planning your dream retirement, or you are simply searching for a convenient, secure way of boosting your later life income, then equity release with a lifetime mortgage could be the financial tool you need to reach your goals. With an array of products on the market, there's sure to be a plan that meets your requirements and ambitions.

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[1] *Equity Release Council, 'New equity release plans rise by a third as lending passes £800 million in a single quarter for the first time', 30/10/17.*

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A classic, perfect for today

By Samantha McGregor

A REVIVAL of Tennessee Williams' masterpiece A Streetcar Named Desire takes to the Oxford stage this month.

In a co-production by Nuffield Southampton Theatres, Theatr Clwyd and English Touring Theatre, the show is staged at the Oxford Playhouse until Saturday.

A Street Car Named Desire is the story of Blanche, who turns up to live with her sister Stella and her husband Stanley.

But anxious, seductive and fiercely clever Blanche is hiding secrets and is just about keeping it together.

Blanche's arrival also threatens Stanley's entire way of life and as the summer heats up, and the games turn savage, a burning desire threatens to tear their world apart.

This revival is set against the backdrop of modern day New Orleans, and features music composed by jazz musician Nubya Garcia.

With the recent #MeToo movement, and relationships between men and women and toxic masculinity largely in the public consciousness, Tennessee Williams' script continues to be timely and relevant.

Ahead of its arrival in Oxford, director Chelsea Walker, winner of the 2017 RTST Sir Peter Hall Director, took time out to chat.

She said: "I've not directed a 'classic' play before, but Streetcar feels alive and kicking and young and muscular.

"It speaks to me because of the way it explores toxic masculinity and the pressures we place on women.

"Williams uses it to rage against a community's complicity in a stream of violence against women, and that couldn't be more relevant to the conversations we're having this year.

"For me, Streetcar is Blanche's story – and Tennessee takes us inside her head. I've always been interested in how we can help an audience access her as a character, and understand the journey that she's on.

"The play treads a line between realism and expressionism, and I've pushed the expressionism to help the audience stay with Blanche."

Tickets start at £10 and are available from the ticket office on 01865 305305 or book online via oxfordplayhouse.com

THERE is something for everyone at this year's Oxfordshire Artweeks as almost 500 exhibitions open their doors.

Running until May 28, a host of artists, including painters, photographers, jewellery makers, sculptors, wood turners and more.

Among those exhibiting is Abingdon's Robert Strange with his incredible detailed pictures of collections of colourful everyday items such as toys, buttons, golf tees or playing cards 'squashed' into boxes, which are on display at Abingdon's Museum in County Hall.

In Bampton, near Witney, the work of more than 20 artists is on display including a stone carver who creates gargoyles for the Oxford skyline, urban photography, striking pop-art created using vintage stamps, ceramics decorated with local hedgerow flora, and an artist whose underwater swimming pictures have a magical quality.

In Cutteslowe go and see Jane Hainsworth's jewellery - she uses silver, shell, beads, pearls and semi-precious stones, or check-out Vital Peeters' contemporary glass.

While Bicester hosts exhibitions by Bicester Sculpture Club, at the Old Vicarage, in Church Street, Abigail Boisot's horse paintings will hang in café Stansfield & Hoole and the town's library plays host to an exhibition by Bicester Art Club.

In Bucknell Road, meet sculptor Robert Bucknell whose array of metalwork includes everything from furniture to fish, rock stars and roses, whilst just a few doors away printmaker Alexandra Buckle demonstrates her linocut printmaking techniques.

For more information view artweeks.org

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Out & About

Country charm and classic cuisine

By Karen Neville

IF good food and warm friendly hospitality are key ingredients for your choice for a meal out then the refurbished Bear & Ragged Staff needs to go on your list.

Located in Cumnor, the 16th century pub, has new owners – The Peach Pub Company – who have given it a new look inside and out.

The main part of the pub retains many Tudor features which are complimented by stylish modern country touches and furnishings.

Having not been there for many years we were pleasantly surprised by its new look and even more so to be greeted warmly by the manager Rob and deputy Bronte – we later found out she remembered serving us at sister pub The Fishes in Hinksey last summer, a nice touch.

So with the warm friendly hospitality box ticked it was time to try out the food. The regular menu was accompanied by a daily specials board and we were drawn to several of the choices on there.

I decided to order the twice-baked cheese soufflé with soused apples and balsamic pearls from the main menu. The souffle was soft, fluffly and rich and the apples and pearls on top provided a subtle sharp contrast to the smoothness.

My husband chose the asparagus, topped with a poached egg and Hollandaise and added a scattering of morels – the egg oozed perfectly over the bright green spears which he declared were cooked exactly as he liked them with a slight crunch.

The pub has a wine of the month and the bottle positioned on our table encouraged us to try the white Rioja which was much lighter bodied than others I have tried so made a good accompaniment to the starters.

We were tempted by the specials of duck breast with potato rosti, carrot and orange puree with a red wine and shallot jus and the mustard glazed pig cheeks with apple puree and chargrilled chicory with sides of creamy mash and spring greens.

The pig cheeks were a revelation, not something I'd tried before I wasn't really sure what to expect, and I can best describe them as being like pulled pork and packed full of flavour.

The duck breast was cooked as requested, just slightly more than pink and the jus added a delicious sweetness complimented by the puree.

Both dishes looked great as well as tasting great.

Much of the restaurant was full by mid evening and many others were eating with smiles on their faces too.

We decided to share dessert, a wise choice as the strawberry parfait was a very generous slice so it was just as well it was light and refreshing. It came with basil syrup and mini black pepper meringues which provided a tastebud-pleasing contrast to the freshness of the parfait.

The whole meal had proved to be pleasing to the tastebuds and well worth a return visit, who knows to perhaps even enjoy the terrace and garden, weather permitting.

Oh and if you should want to try more, the pub boasts nine individual decorated bedrooms all with as much character as the food and The Bear & Ragged Staff itself.

The succulent pig's cheeks and cheese souffle were both a real treat as was the refurbished pub itself with the look in keeping with the history

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Out&About Competition

WIN tickets to The Classic & Sports Car Show in association with Flywheel

Closing date: Thursday, May 17, 2018

On 23-24 June, a fantastic collection of world-class classic competition cars, road cars and bikes – some over a century old – along with an impressive collection of military machines and vintage planes will descend on Bicester Heritage for The Classic & Sports Car Show in association with Flywheel. And you could win tickets for you and your family as we have two family passes up for grabs!

The spectacular event will play host to incredible live demonstrations both on the ground and in the air at the historic site, while the Show's Vintage Village will feature period fairground rides, live music performances, shopping and a huge range of food stalls.

Automobile lovers will delight at the spectacle from the finest that the classic car world has to offer, taking to the demo track to show off in glorious tyre-squealing style. Classic motor clubs will stage displays and the open-access paddock lets visitors get up close to these magnificent machines, while there will also be an impressive collection of historic military vehicles on display, and even passenger rides in the live-action tank arena!

Moving from the ground to the skies, there will be fantastic air displays of historic aircraft, including daily air displays from the Royal Air Force Battle of Britain Memorial Flight (BBMF) Dakota, the Bremont Great War Display Team and the magnificent trio that is the BBMF Spitfire, Hurricane and Lancaster.

The Bremont Great War Display will stage an exhilarating recreation of a WW1 'dogfight', with aircraft such as Sopwith and Fokker Dr1 triplanes showing just how nimble these early warbirds were. Also taking to the skies will be top display pilot and former British Female Aerobatic Champion Lauren Wilson, who will give a thrilling demonstration of the agility of her glorious, bright red Pitts Special aerobatic biplane.

Film buffs are also in for a treat as they'll be able to see filming spots that have been used for box office hits The Imitation Game and The Darkest Hour at Bicester Heritage, the UK's best preserved Second World War Bomber Station.

For your chance to win one of two family tickets to The Classic & Sports Car Show in association with Flywheel just answer the following simple question:

Q: What plane will Lauren Wilson be flying in her display?

A family ticket admits two adults and up to three children (aged 5-15), entry for children under five years is free, parking is also free.

Tickets for The Classic & Sports Car Show in association with Flywheel are on sale with advance tickets starting from £23 per adult, £10 per child (5-15) and £55 per family. Entry for children under the age of five years is free, as is parking. VIP package upgrades are also available, which include parking and hospitality.

For further information and to purchase tickets for Classic & Sports Car Show in association with Flywheel, visit www.classicandsportscarshow.com.

To enter this competition and more like it, go online to
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CROSS CODE

3	11	12	26	13	9	7	23	■	19	7	22	10
22	■	■	22	■	7	■	13	■	23	■	■	11
21	■	24	6	12	12	7	23	2	7	12	■	26
1	13	1	7	■	24	■	7	■	20	21	19	7
■	■	21	■	8	7	21	24	10	■	2	■	10
23	13	15	7	12	■	22	■	13	12	13	24	17
13	■	7	■	21	23	26	7	12	■	21	■	7
26	21	24	7	24	■	21	■	7	23	10	7	12
17	■	17	■	24	1	7	23	2	■	13	■	■
10	20	13	23	■	12	■	7	■	10	11	24	24
25	■	1	11	22	13	15	7	18	21	23	■	13
21	■	■	10	■	24	■	2	■	14	■	■	5
12	13	2	7	■	18	16	24	10	13	4	6	7

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

1 P	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13 I
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23 N	24	25	26

Each number in our Cross Code grid represents a different letter of the alphabet. You have three letters in the control grid to start you off. Enter them in the appropriate squares in the main grid, then use your knowledge of words to work out which letters should go in the missing squares.

As you get the letters, fill in other squares with the same number in the main grid and control grid. Check off the alphabetical list of letters as you identify them.

MAGIC SQUARE

RETURNS TOOL SLYLY

Using all 16 letters of the phrase above, form four words each of four letters which will fit in the grid to form a magic square in which the words can be read both horizontally and vertically.

Quiz Challenge

1. Which writer did Anthony Hopkins portray in the 1993 film Shadowlands?
2. The islands of Sardinia and Corsica are divided by which stretch of water?
3. Which political party, now defunct, was founded by Robert Kilroy-Silk in 2005 after he left UKIP?
4. The 1975 novel A Division of the Spoils was the last book in which series by Paul Scott?
5. Which Frenchwoman won her only Wimbledon singles title in 2006, beating Justine Henin in the final?
6. Which of the 'Great Train Robbers' became a florist outside Waterloo station?
7. Which Gordon Ramsay restaurant, with a name derived from the Greek word for rock, is located on Kinnerton Street, Belgravia, London?
8. Which sovereign island country in the Caribbean Sea has Castries as its capital?
9. In 2007, which rugby league side became the first non-British team to reach the Challenge Cup final?
10. With a six-letter name, what is the world's most popular dating app?

NONAGRAM

Y	E	P
P	S	T
C	I	D

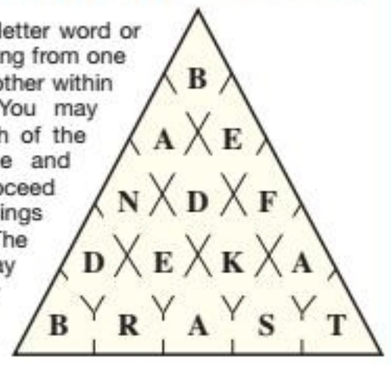
How many words of four letters or more can you make from this Nonagram? Each word must use the central letter, and each letter may be used only once. At least one word using all nine letters can be found.

Guidelines:
17 Good; 20 Very Good; 23 Excellent.

Any word found in the Concise Oxford Dictionary (Tenth Edition) is eligible with the following exceptions: proper nouns; plural nouns, pronouns and possessives; third person singular verbs; hyphenated words; contractions and abbreviations; vulgar slang words; variant spellings of the same word (where another variant is also eligible).

WORD PYRAMID

Spell out a 15-letter word or phrase by moving from one chamber to another within the pyramid. You may only enter each of the chambers once and may only proceed through openings in the walls. The first letter may appear in any chamber.

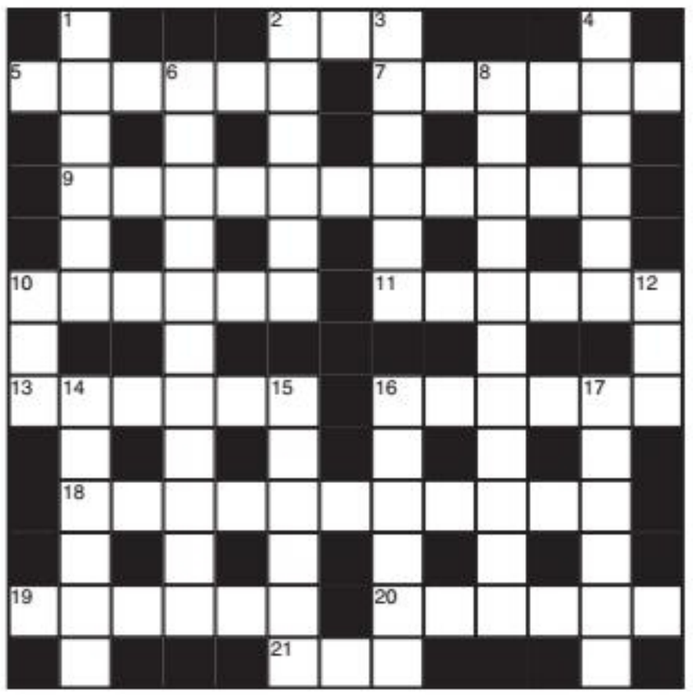


FIVE ALIVE

UR	EN	PA	IC	NT
NE	■	CI	■	AE
ES	QO	NU	AI	CL
FA	■	TC	■	LH
SY	AP	HE	WO	OS

Here are two miniature five-square crosswords using the same grid – but the letters have been mixed up. You have to work out which letters belong to which crossword.

CRYPTIC CROSSWORD



ACROSS

2. Craze will almost disappear (3)
5. Something of a mix-up on choosing garment (6)
7. One confused rat about to become one who makes amends (6)
9. Looked forward to what was expected (11)
10. Cross part of lengthy bridge (6)
11. Find more spirit so one can keep going (6)
13. Mainly going down (6)
16. Bet she rearranged the order (6)
18. Abandoning the situation, maybe only having minor injuries (7,4)
19. Nut about to regret being incorrect (6)
20. Month on the border causing chaos (6)
21. Gleaming boy (3)

DOWN

1. Lad found healthy colour in science (6)
2. Compelled to make such a landing (6)
3. A wet blanket might help to start the fire (6)
4. Interfere with what sounds like a gong (6)
6. Make provision and support for the young creature (11)
8. Being remote, it is no longer an obstacle (3,2,3,3)
10. Colourful man, we hear (3)
12. Allowed to rent (3)
14. Giving way to the smell on one side (6)
15. Despite being powerless, it flies (6)
16. Crime committed by large lady? (6)
17. Fashioned modestly in order for Maureen not to be involved (6)

SUDOKU

Easy Each row and each column must contain the numbers 1 to 9, and so must each 3 x 3 box. **Hard**

		7	2					
6		1		8	4			
		2	1	9				
		3	5	2			9	8
	5			4				2
2			6		8	5		
1				6		3	4	
3	2					8	5	
9		4	7		5	6		

2				3	1			
4					6			
	6		4	8			1	7
					7		9	
				4		2		5
			6	5			4	
6	9							
	7						3	
		3				5	2	9

EQUALISER

6 9

5 ◯ 3 ◯ 10

3 3

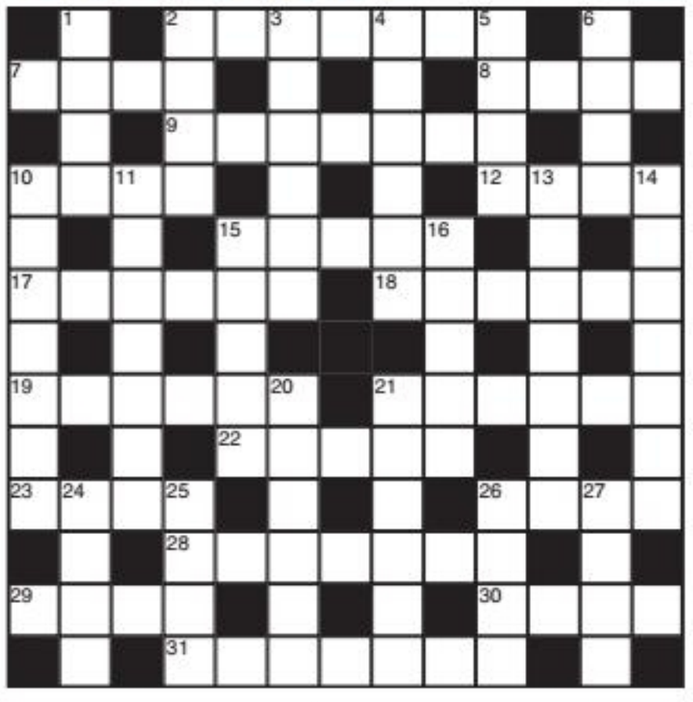
8 ◯ 3 ◯ 2

4 1

Place the four signs (add, subtract, multiply, divide) one in each circle so that the total of each across and down line is the same.

Perform the first calculation in each line first and ignore the mathematical law which says you should always perform division and multiplication before addition and subtraction.

QUICK CROSSWORD



ACROSS

2. Soothsayer (7)
7. Quartet (4)
8. Public showing (4)
9. Acquit without blame (7)
10. Medicine (4)
12. Let fall (4)
15. Breast (5)
17. Of recent times (6)
18. Anoint (anag.) (6)
19. Apathy (6)
21. Amble (6)
22. Molten rock (5)
23. Arab boat (4)
26. Glimpse (4)
28. Monotonous (7)
29. Cab (4)
30. Children's game (1-3)
31. Wild cat (7)

DOWN

1. Needy (4)
2. Pull roughly (4)
3. Act of seeing (6)
4. Wrestling hold (6)
5. Marsh grass (4)
6. As far as (2,2)
10. Reduced in rank (7)
11. Experience (7)
13. Destructive (7)
14. Punishment (7)
15. Brush (5)
16. Mediterranean island (5)
20. Dealer in waste scraps of cloth (6)
21. Sully (6)
24. White frost (4)
25. Flog (4)
26. Muslim prince (4)
27. Tube (4)

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SOLUTIONS

QUIZ CHALLENGE: 1 C.S. Lewis; 2 Strait of Bonifacio; 3 Veritas; 4 Raj Quartet; 5 Amélie Mauresmo; 6 'Buster' Edwards; 7 Petrus; 8 St Lucia; 9 Catalans Dragons; 10 Tinder.

CROSS CODE

1 P	2 D	3	F	4	Q	5	Z	6	U	7	E	8	B
9 V	10 T	11 O	12 R	13 I	14 X	15 C	16 Y	17 H	18 M	19 K	20 W	21	A
22 L	23 N	24 S	25 J	26 G									

CRYPTIC CROSSWORD:
Across – 2 Fad; 5 Poncho; 7 Atoner; 9 Anticipated; 10 Hybrid; 11 Refuel; 13 Ebbing; 16 Behest; 18 Walking away; 19 Untrue; 20 Mayhem; 21 Ray.
Down – 1 Botany; 2 Forced; 3 Damper; 4 Meddle; 6 Caterpillar; 8 Out of the way; 10 Hue; 12 Let; 14 Bowing; 15 Glider; 16 Bigamy; 17 Styled.

QUICK CROSSWORD:
Across – 2 Diviner; 7 Four; 8 Expo; 9 Absolve; 10 Drug; 12 Drop; 15 Bosom; 17 Modern; 18 Nation; 19 Torpor; 21 Stroll; 22 Magma; 23 Dhow; 26 Espy; 28 Humdrum; 29 Taxi; 30 I-spy; 31 Panther.
Down – 1 Poor; 2 Drag; 3 Vision; 4 Nelson; 5 Reed; 6 Up to; 10 Demoted; 11 Undergo; 13 Ruinous; 14 Penalty; 15 Broom; 16 Malta; 20 Ragman; 21 Snitch; 24 Hoar; 25 Whip; 26 Emir; 27 Pipe.

EASY SUDOKU

8	4	7	2	5	6	9	1	3
6	9	1	3	8	4	2	7	5
5	3	2	1	9	7	4	8	6
4	6	3	5	2	1	7	9	8
7	5	8	9	4	3	1	6	2
2	1	9	6	7	8	5	3	4
3	2	6	4	1	9	8	5	7
1	7	5	8	6	2	3	4	9
9	8	4	7	3	5	6	2	1

HARD SUDOKU

2	8	7	5	3	1	9	6	4
4	3	1	9	7	6	8	5	2
5	6	9	4	8	2	3	1	7
3	5	4	2	1	7	6	9	8
9	1	6	8	4	5	2	7	3
7	2	8	6	5	9	1	4	3
6	9	5	3	2	4	7	8	1
8	7	2	1	9	5	4	3	6
1	4	3	7	6	8	5	2	9

MAGIC SQUARE: lost; only; slur; tyre.

WORD PYRAMID: Bed and breakfast.

EQUALISER: Clockwise from top left – subtract; add; divide; multiply. Total: 12.

FIVE ALIVE:
(1) Across – Unpin; Sonic; Yahoo.
Down – Unsay; Pinch; Nacho.
(2) Across – React; Equal; Spews.
Down – Reefs; Acute; Tells.

NONAGRAM:
cist; cyst; deist; disc; DYSPEPTIC; espy; pest; piste; sect; sept; septic; sice; side; sipe; sipped; sippet; site; sited; spec; sped; spice; spiced; spicy; spied; spit; spite; spited; step; sted; stipe; stye; syce; tipsy.

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SOBELL HOUSE

Walking is a fantastic way to improve mental health, through exercise, fresh air, time away from the pressures we face in everyday life.

At Sobell House we attach a lot of importance to the overall well-being of our patients, their physical and mental health matters to us. Our priority is on enabling patients to retain their mobility and independence for as long as possible, and to support people in living as well and as fully as possible in the time that they have left.

Our fantastic multi-disciplinary team, made up of occupational therapists, physiotherapists, a psychiatrist and a range of art therapists, works together to ensure patients have the tools as well as the physical aids that they need to help make many of the small everyday tasks that we all take for granted that much more possible. Tasks such as putting on slippers; walking to the end of the garden; going to the toilet on one's own; turning in bed; all these tasks can become overwhelming if people are not equipped to carry them safely. We see that this greater feeling of independence and control has a direct positive impact on the patients' mental health.

The majority of the people who support Sobell House have had a connection with the hospice. We find that many chose physical exercise such as walking and running as their way of showing their gratitude for the services that we provided for a loved one.

So we are keen to give our supporters the opportunity to get fit and feel healthy and, at the same time, help Sobell House to continue to care for people living with a terminal illness across Oxfordshire.

Here are some of the immediate opportunities that you can join to come and get fit with us www.sobellhouse.org for more information or call us on 01865857007

Forget Me Not Fun Run – 20 May 2018 – 10:30am

A family event in the beautiful surroundings of Stratfield Brake in Kidlington.

This is 5k course to mark the close of our Schools project looking at death and dying with children in the context of the classroom.

A non-competitive event aimed at runners, walkers and nature lovers. Run, walk, jog or just enjoy the surroundings.

Sign up at www.sobellhouse.org/forgetmenot

The Moonlight Stroll – 23 June 2018 – 9pm

This is our best supported event – hundreds of people come together of an evening to talk for Sobell House and show their support and appreciation for the work that we do.

It is an 8-mile walk through the streets of Oxford, with marshals at every turn helping you stay on course.

Sign up at www.sobellhouse.org/moonlightstroll

The Oxford Half Marathon – 7 October

If you're a little more experienced or want to set yourself a new challenge, we are now taking entries for the Oxford Half Marathon.

With over 100 runners, last year Team Sobell was the largest single team in the race. Let's try and do even better this year, get your place now and take advantage of our special charity places!

To sign up and get your special code email kevin.game@sobellhospice.org or call 01865 857012

If you would like to hear more about the work of Sobell House, or keep up to date with our events please email mail@sobellhospice.org

To advertise call 01235 511700

Thursday May 10th

BBC 1

9.00pm Ambulance

MORNING

9.15am Rip Off Britain
10.00am Homes Under the Hammer
11.00am A1: Britain's Longest Road
11.45am The Housing Enforcers

AFTERNOON

12.15pm Bargain Hunt
1.00pm BBC News at One
1.30pm Regional News and Weather
1.45pm Doctors
2.15pm 800 Words
3.00pm Escape to the Country
3.45pm Flipping Profit
4.30pm Flog It!
5.15pm Pointless

EVENING

6.00pm BBC News at Six
6.30pm Regional News and Weather
7.00pm The One Show
7.30pm EastEnders
8.00pm Britain's Best Home Cook
9.00pm Ambulance
10.00pm BBC News at Ten
10.30pm Regional News and Weather
10.45pm Question Time
11.45pm This Week
12.30am Weather for the Week Ahead
12.35am BBC News
6.00am Breakfast

BBC 2

6.30pm Great British Railway Journeys

MORNING

8.00am David Attenborough's Natural Curiosities
8.30am Kate Humble: Off the Beaten Track
9.00am Victoria Derbyshire
11.00am BBC Newsroom Live

AFTERNOON

12.00pm The Daily Politics
1.00pm Perfection
1.45pm Home Away From Home
2.30pm Going Back Giving Back
3.15pm Digging for Britain
4.15pm Tudor Monastery Farm
5.15pm Money for Nothing

EVENING

6.00pm Eggheads
6.30pm Great British Railway Journeys
7.00pm Back to the Land with Kate Humble
8.00pm World's Most Extraordinary Homes
9.00pm Red Ape: Saving the Orangutan
10.00pm QI
10.30pm Newsnight
11.15pm Dara and Ed's Great Big Adventure
12.15am Versailles
1.10am Versailles
2.05am The Truth About Obesity

ITV

4.00pm Tipping Point

MORNING

8.30am Lorraine
9.25am The Jeremy Kyle Show
10.30am This Morning

AFTERNOON

12.30pm Loose Women
1.30pm ITV Lunchtime News
1.55pm ITV News London
2.00pm Judge Rinder
3.00pm Tenable
4.00pm Tipping Point
5.00pm The Chase

EVENING

6.00pm ITV News London
6.30pm ITV Evening News
7.00pm Emmerdale
7.30pm Tonight
8.00pm Emmerdale
8.30pm Paul O'grady: For the Love of Dogs
9.00pm Who Wants to be a Millionaire?
10.00pm ITV News at Ten and Weather
10.30pm ITV News London
10.45pm Great Art
11.50pm Give it a Year
12.15am Lethal Weapon
1.00am Jackpot247

Channel 4

8.00pm Food Unwrapped

MORNING

7.10am 3rd Rock from the Sun
7.35am Everybody Loves Raymond
8.30am Frasier
10.05am Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA
11.00am Undercover Boss USA

AFTERNOON

12.00pm Channel 4 News
12.05pm Coast v Country
1.05pm Posh Pawnbrokers
2.10pm Countdown
3.00pm A Place in the Sun: Winter Sun
4.00pm The ¬£100k Drop
5.00pm Four in a Bed
5.30pm Buy it Now

EVENING

6.00pm The Simpsons
6.30pm Hollyoaks
7.00pm Channel 4 News
8.00pm Food Unwrapped
9.00pm 999: What's Your Emergency?
10.00pm Riot Girls
10.30pm 8 Out of 10 Cats Does Countdown
11.30pm Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA
12.25am The Real Football Fan Show
12.55am Genderquake
1.50am Genderquake
2.45am Holidays Unpacked

Channel 5

2.15pm The Yorkshire Vet Casebook

MORNING

8.20am Floogals
8.40am Digby Dragon
8.55am Nella the Princess Knight
9.05am Mofy
9.15am The Wright Stuff
11.15am The Yorkshire Vet

AFTERNOON

12.10pm 5 News Lunchtime
12.15pm GPs: Behind Closed Doors
1.15pm Home and Away
1.45pm Neighbours
2.15pm The Yorkshire Vet Casebook
3.15pm Sinister Stepmother
5.00pm 5 News at 5
5.30pm Neighbours

EVENING

6.00pm Home and Away
6.30pm 5 News Tonight
7.00pm The Nightmare Neighbour Next Door
8.00pm Bad Tenants, Rogue Landlords
9.00pm Can't Pay? We'll Take it Away!
10.00pm Undercover: Nailing the Fraudsters
11.05pm Where There's Blame, There's a Claim
12.00am Super Casino
3.10am GPs: Behind Closed Doors
4.00am Get Your Tatts Out: Kavos Ink
4.45am House Doctor

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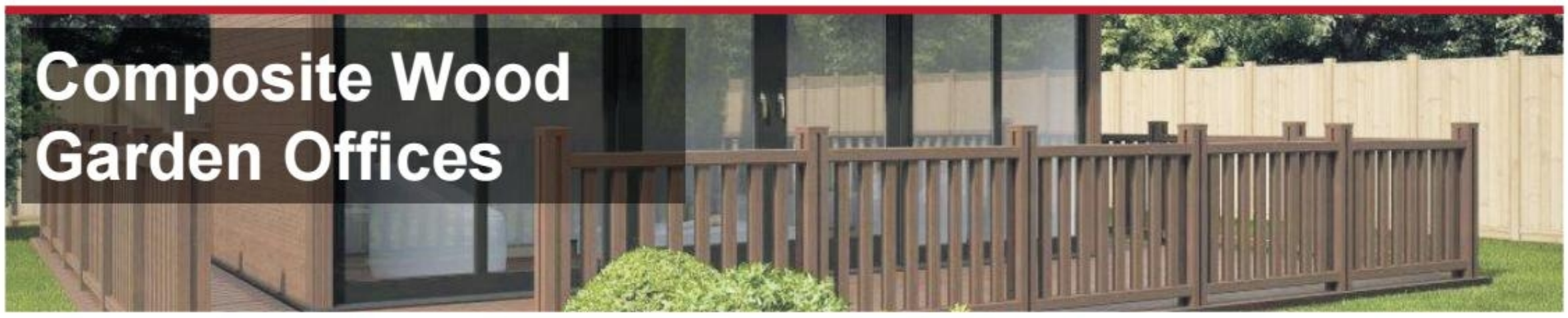

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Friday May 11th

BBC 1

TOP TV

9.00pm Have I Got News for You

MORNING

9.15am Rip Off Britain
10.00am Homes Under the Hammer
11.00am A1: Britain's Longest Road
11.45am The Housing Enforcers

AFTERNOON

12.15pm Bargain Hunt
1.00pm BBC News at One
1.30pm Regional News and Weather
1.45pm Doctors
2.15pm Escape to the Country
3.00pm Garden Rescue
3.45pm Flipping Profit
4.30pm Flog It!
5.15pm Pointless

EVENING

6.00pm BBC News at Six
6.30pm Regional News and Weather
7.00pm The One Show
8.00pm EastEnders
8.30pm The Button
9.00pm Have I Got News for You
9.30pm Home from Home
10.00pm BBC News at Ten
10.25pm Regional News and Weather
10.35pm The Graham Norton Show
11.25pm Peter Kay's Car Share Unscripted
11.55pm Buried
1.25am Weather for the Week Ahead

BBC 2

TOP TV

7.00pm Back to the Land with Kate Humble

MORNING

7.15am Flipping Profit
8.00am Antiques Roadshow
9.00am Victoria Derbyshire
11.00am BBC Newsroom Live

AFTERNOON

12.00pm The Daily Politics
1.00pm Perfection
1.45pm Home Away From Home
2.30pm Going Back Giving Back
3.15pm Digging for Britain
4.15pm Tudor Monastery Farm
5.15pm Money for Nothing

EVENING

6.00pm Eggheads
6.30pm Great British Railway Journeys
7.00pm Back to the Land with Kate Humble
8.00pm Gardeners' World
9.00pm The Bridge
10.00pm Episodes
10.30pm Newsnight
11.05pm Louis Theroux
12.40am Versailles
1.30am Versailles
2.25am Versailles
3.15am Civilisations

ITV

TOP TV

8.00pm Love Your Garden

MORNING

8.30am Lorraine
9.25am The Jeremy Kyle Show
10.30am This Morning

AFTERNOON

12.30pm Loose Women
1.30pm ITV Lunchtime News
1.55pm ITV News London
2.00pm Judge Rinder
3.00pm Tenable
4.00pm Tipping Point
5.00pm The Chase

EVENING

6.00pm ITV News London
6.30pm ITV Evening News
7.00pm Emmerdale
7.30pm Coronation Street
8.00pm Love Your Garden
8.30pm Coronation Street
9.00pm Who Wants to be a Millionaire?
10.00pm ITV News at Ten and Weather
10.30pm ITV News London
10.45pm Through the Keyhole
11.45pm Take Me Out
12.45am Jackpot247
3.00am Take on the Twisters
3.50am ITV Nightscreen

Channel 4

TOP TV

7.30pm Unreported World

MORNING

7.10am 3rd Rock from the Sun
7.35am Everybody Loves Raymond
8.30am Frasier
10.05am Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA
11.00am Undercover Boss USA

AFTERNOON

12.00pm Channel 4 News
12.05pm Coast v Country
1.05pm Posh Pawnbrokers
2.10pm Countdown
3.00pm A Place in the Sun
4.00pm The ¬£100k Drop
5.00pm Four in a Bed
5.30pm Buy it Now

EVENING

6.00pm The Simpsons
6.30pm Hollyoaks
7.00pm Channel 4 News
7.30pm Unreported World
8.00pm Our Wildest Dreams
9.00pm Gogglebox
10.00pm Friday Night Dinner
10.30pm High and Dry
11.00pm First Dates
12.05am The Crying Game
2.10am Riot Girls
2.35am Kiss Me First
3.35am Gok's Fill Your House for Free

Channel 5

TOP TV

7.00pm The Gadget Show

MORNING

8.40am Digby Dragon
8.55am Nella the Princess Knight
9.05am Mofy
9.15am The Wright Stuff
11.15am The Nightmare Neighbour Next Door

AFTERNOON

12.10pm 5 News Lunchtime
12.15pm GPs: Behind Closed Doors
1.15pm Home and Away
1.45pm Neighbours
2.15pm The Yorkshire Vet Casebook
3.15pm Tormenting Abigail
5.00pm 5 News at 5
5.30pm Neighbours

EVENING

6.00pm Home and Away
6.30pm 5 News Tonight
7.00pm The Gadget Show
8.00pm Britain's Great Cathedrals, with Tony Robinson
9.00pm Portillo's Hidden History of Britain
10.00pm The Great Rameses: New Evidence Revealed
11.05pm Secrets of Tutankhamun's Treasures
12.05am Super Casino
3.10am GPs: Behind Closed Doors
4.00am Get Your Tatts Out: Kavos Ink

Saturday May 12th

BBC 1

TOP TV

4.45pm Big Hero 6

MORNING

10.00am Saturday Kitchen Live
11.30am The Hairy Bikers' Asian Adventure

AFTERNOON

12.00pm Football Focus
1.00pm BBC News
1.15pm Rugby League's Legendary Watersplash Final
2.00pm Rugby League Challenge Cup
4.30pm Doodlebugs
4.45pm Big Hero 6

EVENING

6.20pm Ready or Not
6.50pm BBC News
7.00pm Regional News and Weather
7.10pm Pointless
8.00pm Eurovision Song Contest 2018
11.35pm BBC News
11.55pm Lay the Favourite
1.20am Weather for the Week Ahead
1.25am BBC News
6.00am Breakfast

BBC 2

TOP TV

4.30pm Top of the Shop with Tom Kerridge

MORNING

8.30am Beyond Bionic
9.00am Robot Wars
10.00am Astronauts: Do You Have What it Takes?
11.00am Homes Under the Hammer

AFTERNOON

12.00pm The World According to Kids
1.00pm Money for Nothing
1.10pm Escape to the Country
1.55pm Finding Neverland
3.30pm Top of the Shop with Tom Kerridge
4.30pm Top of the Shop with Tom Kerridge
5.30pm Love in the Countryside

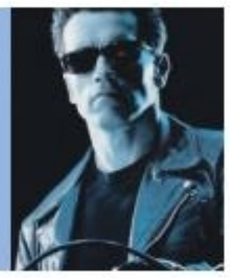
EVENING

6.30pm The Forest
7.00pm World's Most Extraordinary Homes
8.00pm Coast Lives
8.30pm Dad's Army
9.00pm The Private Life of the Royal Academy
10.20pm My Old Lady
12.00am Versailles
12.55am Versailles
1.50am Versailles
2.45am Versailles
3.40am This is BBC Two
6.05am Glorious Gardens From Above

ITV

TOP TV

10.05pm Terminator 2: Judgment Day



MORNING

8.25am ITV News
8.30am Zoe Ball on Saturday
9.25am Saturday Morning with James Martin
11.20am Countrywise
11.50am ITV Lunchtime News

AFTERNOON

12.00pm Little Big Shots
1.00pm Midsomer Murders
3.00pm Ninja Warrior UK
4.00pm Tipping Point
5.00pm The Chase

EVENING

6.00pm Local News and Weather
6.15pm ITV Evening News
6.30pm Ninja Warrior UK
7.30pm Harry Hill's Alien Fun Capsule
8.00pm Britain's Got Talent
9.20pm The Keith and Paddy Picture Show
9.50pm ITV News
10.05pm Terminator 2: Judgment Day
12.30am Jackpot247
3.00am Babushka
3.50am ITV Nightscreen
6.00am Sooty
6.10am Grizzly Tales for Gruesome Kids

Channel 4

TOP TV

9.00pm Cowboys and Aliens

MORNING

7.10am King of Queens
7.35am Everybody Loves Raymond
9.00am Frasier
10.30am The Big Bang Theory
11.00am The Big Bang Theory
11.55am The Simpsons

AFTERNOON

12.25pm The Simpsons
12.55pm The Simpsons
1.25pm Come Dine with Me
2.30pm A Place in the Sun: Winter Sun
3.00pm A Place in the Sun: Winter Sun
4.00pm Location, Location, Location
5.00pm Formula 1

EVENING

6.30pm Channel 4 News
7.00pm When Harry Met Meghan: A Royal Romance
8.00pm Britain's Most Historic Towns
9.00pm Cowboys and Aliens
11.15pm 2 Guns
1.15am Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA
2.05am Hollyoaks Omnibus
4.15am Gok's Fill Your House for Free
5.10am Kirstie's Vintage Gems
5.25am Fifteen to One
6.15am King of Queens
6.40am King of Queens

Channel 5

TOP TV

8.00pm Can't Pay? We'll Take it Away!

MORNING

9.15am Shimmer and Shine
9.30am Digby Dragon
9.45am Peppa Pig
10.05am Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles
10.30am The Gadget Show
11.25am Police Interceptors

AFTERNOON

12.25pm Police Interceptors
1.20pm Police Interceptors
2.20pm The Nightmare Neighbour Next Door
3.20pm The Nightmare Neighbour Next Door
4.15pm Nightmare Tenants
5.15pm Bad Tenants, Rogue Landlords

EVENING

6.10pm Rich House, Poor House
7.00pm Can't Pay? We'll Take it Away!
8.00pm Can't Pay? We'll Take it Away!
8.55pm 5 News Weekend
9.00pm Live Boxing: Sexton v Fury
11.15pm 5 Goes to Eurovision: When Things Goes Horribly Wrong
1.55am Super Casino
3.10am GPs: Behind Closed Doors
4.00am Britain's Great Cathedrals, with Tony Robinson
4.45am House Doctor
5.10am Wildlife SOS
5.35am Wildlife SOS

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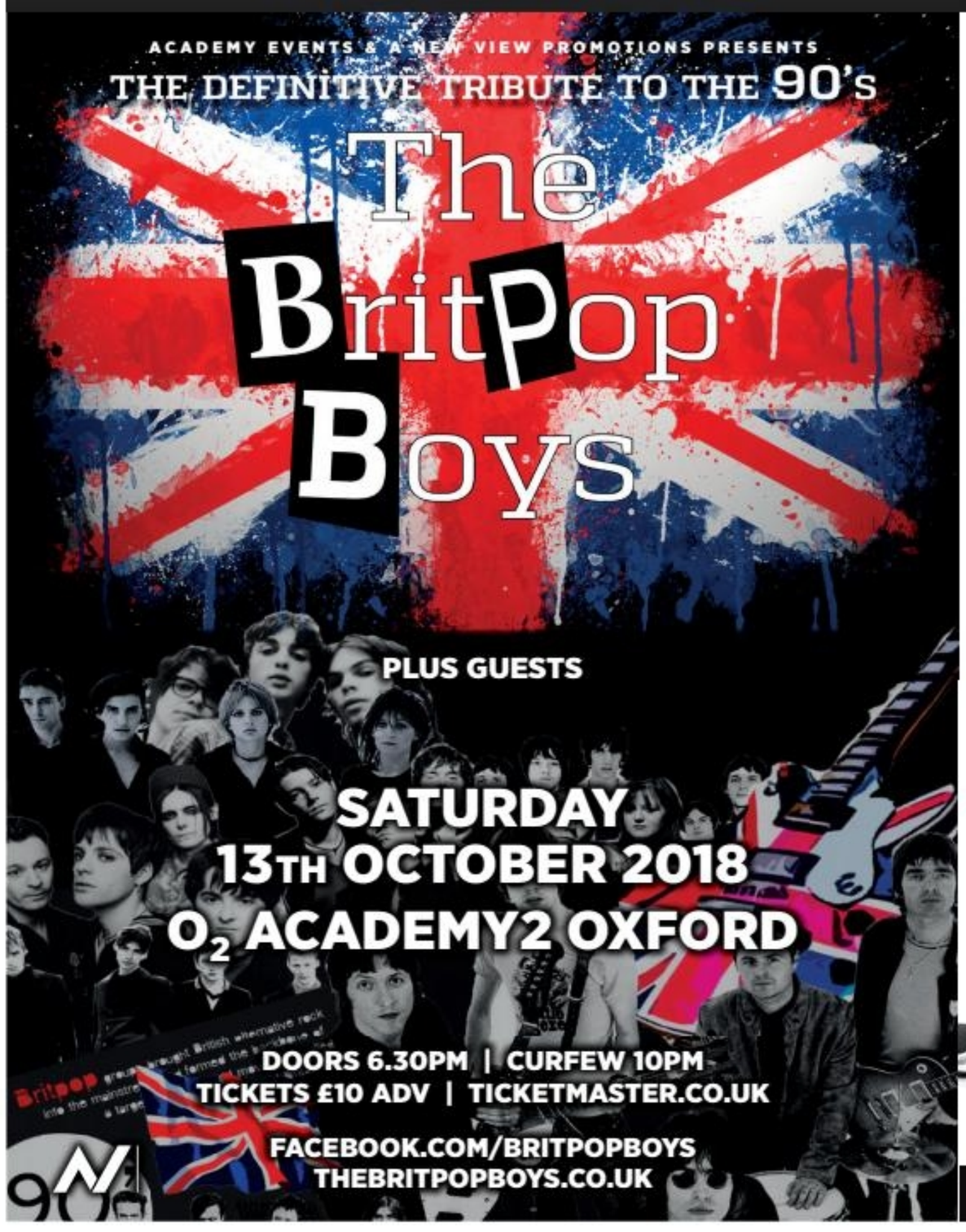
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Sunday May 13th

BBC 1

3.20pm Britain's Best Home Cook

MORNING

9.00am The Andrew Marr Show
10.00am The Big Questions
11.00am Sunday Politics

AFTERNOON

12.15pm Bargain Hunt
1.00pm BBC News
1.15pm Britain's Fat Fight with Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall
2.15pm Lifeline
2.25pm Points of View
2.40pm Songs of Praise
3.20pm Britain's Best Home Cook
4.20pm Final Score
5.30pm BBC News
5.45pm Regional News and Weather

EVENING

6.00pm The a-Z of the Rhs Chelsea Flower Show
7.00pm Countryfile
8.00pm British Academy Television Awards 2018
10.00pm BBC News
10.20pm Regional News and Weather
10.30pm Match of the Day
12.10am The Women's Football Show
12.45am Weather for the Week Ahead
12.50am BBC News
6.00am Breakfast

BBC 2

6.00pm Tomorrowland

MORNING

7.20am Gardeners' World
8.20am Countryfile
9.15am The Beechgrove Garden
9.45am Saturday Kitchen Best Bites
11.15am Spring Kitchen with Tom Kerridge

AFTERNOON

12.00pm Athletics
1.00pm Triathlon World Series
3.00pm Rugby League
5.30pm Flog It!

EVENING

6.00pm Tomorrowland
8.00pm Neanderthals - Meet Your Ancestors
9.00pm Burma with Simon Reeve
10.00pm Atlanta
10.25pm Atlanta
10.50pm Later... with Jools Holland
11.50pm Versailles
12.45am Versailles
1.40am Versailles
2.35am Question Time
3.35am Holby City
4.35am This is BBC Two
6.00am Flog it! Trade Secrets

ITV

2.30pm Paul O'grady: For the Love of Dogs

MORNING

8.00am The Haunted Hathaways
8.25am ITV News
8.30am Zoe Ball on Sunday
9.25am Love Your Garden
10.00am Peston on Sunday
11.00am Britain's Got Talent

AFTERNOON

12.15pm Britain's Got More Talent
1.15pm ITV Lunchtime News
1.30pm Ninja Warrior UK
2.30pm Paul O'grady: For the Love of Dogs
3.00pm Change Your Tune
4.00pm Tipping Point
5.00pm The Chase: Celebrity Special

EVENING

6.00pm Harry Hill's Alien Fun Capsule
6.30pm ITV Evening News
6.45pm Local News and Weather
7.00pm Little Big Shots
8.00pm Midsomer Murders
10.00pm ITV News
10.20pm Peston on Sunday
11.20pm This Time Next Year
12.15am Great Art
1.05am Jackpot247
3.00am Motorsport UK
3.50am British Superbike Championship Highlights
4.40am ITV Nightscreen

Channel 4

9.00pm Eddie the Eagle

MORNING

7.05am Everybody Loves Raymond
7.30am Everybody Loves Raymond
7.55am Everybody Loves Raymond
8.25am Eat the Week with Iceland
9.30am Sunday Brunch

AFTERNOON

12.30pm Bake Off: The Professionals
1.30pm The Simpsons
2.00pm The Simpsons
2.30pm Cheaper by the Dozen
4.25pm Extreme Cake Makers
5.30pm Channel 4 News

EVENING

6.00pm Formula 1
8.00pm Bake Off: The Professionals
9.00pm Eddie the Eagle
11.05pm 8 Out of 10 Cats Does Countdown
12.05am Good People
1.35am Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA
2.25am When Harry Met Meghan: A Royal Romance
3.20am Gok's Fill Your House for Free
4.15am Best Laid Plans
5.10am Fifteen to One
6.00am Countdown

Channel 5

2.50pm Ace Ventura: When Nature Calls

MORNING

10.30am Dogs Make You Laugh Out Loud
11.00am Budgies Make You Laugh Out Loud
11.55am Penguins Make You Laugh Out Loud

AFTERNOON

12.55pm Puppies Make You Laugh Out Loud 2
1.55pm Naughty Dogs Make You Laugh Out Loud
2.50pm Ace Ventura: When Nature Calls
3.50pm 5 News
3.55pm Ace Ventura: When Nature Calls
4.40pm Garfield

EVENING

6.10pm Kittens Make You Laugh Out Loud
7.00pm Kitten's Got Talent
8.00pm Psycho Pussies: When Cats Attack
8.55pm 5 News Weekend
9.00pm Kylie at 50: Especially for You
10.35pm Muriel's Wedding
12.40am Fail Army
1.00am Super Casino
3.10am The Yorkshire Vet
4.00am Naughty Dogs Make You Laugh Out Loud
4.45am House Doctor

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We've all suffered that Sunday evening feeling when the reality of the Monday morning commute starts to loom. Whether you're faced with a packed train, a busy motorway or the crazy traffic-dodging that comes with cycling to work, the daily commute is both a necessary evil and, at the same time, something that continues to hold significant influence over property prices – albeit in different ways than it has before.

Over the past decade, the overall number of commutes nationwide have fallen in line with the rise of flexible working, self-employment and technological advancements which make remote working easier. However, the impact that a strong transport infrastructure has on influencing home movers simply cannot be underestimated – after all, people still need to get to work - at least sometimes!

In the past, a short commuting time was often important. Nowadays, however, with the requirement to commute on a daily basis lessening, a greater choice of housing stock opens up as people become more amenable to the notion of living further away from their normal workplace.

This is good news for the countryside as it helps to utilise housing stock which is located further from city centres. And here in Oxfordshire, it's particularly good news given the county's mix of city and country.

In Oxfordshire the most popular mode of commuting remains driving, which made up 63% of all household commutes* although this has dropped slightly in line with the increased popularity of train travel.

What this means is that homes either within easy access of train stations (and across the county we have several designated 'parkway' stations with plenty of car parking) or which have their own dedicated parking spaces are almost always popular choices with purchasers of working age.

However, nowadays, it's not just transport connectivity which makes a home attractive - strong broadband connectivity will also be particularly important, especially for workers who want to work from home more often!

So, if you're in the market for a new home in Oxfordshire and want to check out the strength of both the local physical and cyber infrastructures, then why not pop in to one of the five Andrews' branches across the county to speak with our teams of local experts who can advise you and, maybe, help make the commute to work just a little easier to bear. Otherwise, visit www.andrewsonline.co.uk where plenty of advice on choosing your next home is available.

*according to 2011 census.

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BIGWOOD PARK, RADLEY £275,000
(3 miles Oxford, 4 miles Abingdon)

1ST ADVERT

A superbly presented 2013 Prestige Reprise 50' x 22'3 luxury twin unit sited on good-sized corner plot of this popular private park. Porch, hall, 20' lounge, dining room, kitchen, utility room, study, 2 double bedrooms (bedroom 1 with walk-in wardrobe and en-suite shower room), bathroom, LPG gas radiator central heating, UPVC double glazing, Decra style roof, gardens with parking for 2 cars

TUDOR COURT, BOTLEY £149,950
(3 miles Oxford centre)

1ST ADVERT

A 1985 County Homes 40' x 20' twin unit superbly located with open views to rear on this sought after private park. Porch, hall, 20' lounge, dining area, kitchen, 2 double bedrooms, shower room, mains gas radiator central heating, Decra style roof, UPVC double glazed replacement windows, gardens backing onto fields, detached garage and driveway

ST MARY'S COURT, BAMPTON £169,950
(4 miles Witney, 12 miles Oxford)

JUST REDUCED

A superbly presented 2011 Tingdene Muslo Lodge 42' x 20' twin unit pleasantly situated on this established and popular private park. Porch hall, superb L-shaped lounge/diner, study, fitted kitchen, 2 bedrooms (main bedroom with dressing room adjoining), luxury bathroom/shower room, LPG gas radiator central heating, wood-effect flooring throughout, UPVC double glazed Georgian style windows and doors, textured external walls, Decra style roof, brick built skirt and steps, gravelled driveway and gravelled car parking space, low maintenanc gardens

FOXHALL MANOR PARK, DIDCOT £99,950
(12 miles south of Oxford)

1ST ADVERT

A 1998 Omar Colorado Elite 36' x 20' twin unit in need of some updating and redecoration set in secluded gardens on established park. Porch, hall, lounge, dining room, kitchen, 2 good bedrooms (main bedroom with en-suite shower room), bathroom, LPG gas radiator central heating, UPVC double glazing, Decra style roof, brick built skirt, detached garage with own driveway, gardens

OLD MARSTON £54,950
(5 miles Oxford)

1ST ADVERT

A circa 1980 Stately Woburn 32' x 20' twin unit in need of complete modernisation and refurbishment situated on popular park within the ring road. Inner hall, lounge, dining area, kitchen, 2 bedrooms, wet-room, gardens, on-site car parking space

BABLOCKHYTHE, THAMESIDE COURT £150,000
(5 miles Witney, 10 miles Oxford)

A well presented Omar Southdown circa 1990 36' x 20' twin unit set in attractive gardens. Inner hall, 20' lounge, dining room, kitchen, 3 bedrooms, bathroom, LPG gas radiator central heating via combi boiler, UPVC double glazed windows, Decra style roof, re-constituted stone skirt, on-site parking space, attractively landscaped gardens approximately 70' x 40' overall

STEVENTON, NR ABINGDON £182,500
(4 miles Didcot, 4 miles Abingdon)

A superbly presented 1998 Wessex 36' x 20' twin unit bordering farmland on established residential park close to village centre. Porch, hall, lounge, dining room, kitchen, 2 bedrooms, (main bedroom with en-suite shower room), bathroom, mains gas radiator central heating, UPVC double glazed windows and doors, textured walls, brick built skirt, Decra style roof, gardens bordering farmland, allocated car space nearby

BICESTER PARK HOME ESTATE £185,000
(2 miles Bicester, 12 miles Oxford)

A well presented 2015 Prestige Sonata II 35' x 22'3 twin unit set in low maintenance gardens on this recently established park home site just south of Bicester town centre. Hall, lounge, dining area, fitted kitchen, 2 bedrooms (main bedroom with en-suite shower room), bathroom, LPG gas radiator central heating, UPVC double glazed windows and doors, Decra style roof, brick built skirt and steps, low maintenance gardens, on-site car parking space

WARDS PARK, OLD MARSTON £135,000
(2.5 miles north Oxford centre)

JUST REDUCED

A well presented mid 1980s Tingdene 36' x 20' twin unit situated on popular private park within the ring road. Porch, hall, lounge, dining room, kitchen, 2 bedroom, shower room, LPG gas radiator central heating, UPVC double glazing, Decra style roof, low maintenance gardens, on site car parking space

KINGS COPSE, GARSINGTON £159,000
(4 miles east Oxford city centre)

JUST REDUCED

A superbly presented 2015 Tingdene Hayden Classic 28' x 16' twin unit in attractive gardens. Lounge, kitchen/diner, bedroom, en-suite shower room, metered LPG gas radiator central heating, UPVC double glazed windows, Decra style roof, textured walls, attractive gardens, on- site car parking space

THAMESIDE COURT, BABLOCKHYTHE £139,950
(5 miles Witney, 10 miles Oxford)

A superbly presented and skilfully improved 2010 Omar Oulton Excel 34' x 16' twin unit on favoured private Thameside park. Hall, L-shaped lounge/diner, fitted kitchen, 2 bedrooms, luxury shower room, LPG gas radiator central heating, UPVC double glazing, carpets, curtains and furnishings, on-site parking, brick built skirt and steps, gardens

HORSPATH PARK, HORSPATH £130,000
(5 miles east Oxford city centre)

JUST REDUCED

A recently renovated 1986 Omar Princess 22' x 20' twin unit on popular private park. Lounge/dining room, kitchen, inner hall, bedroom, shower room, LPG gas radiator central heating, UPVC double glazing, Decra style roof, gardens, communal car parking area nearby

THE WILLOWS, GROVE £87,500

JUST REDUCED

A 1986 Tingdene 36' x 20' twin unit in need of some updating set on corner plot on established private park. Hall, 17' lounge, dining area, kitchen, 2 good bedrooms, bathroom, mains has radiator central heating, UPVC double glazing, Decra style roof, brick built skirt, low maintenance gardens, communal car parking to front

BAYSWATER FARM PARK, HEADINGTON £41,500
(3 miles Oxford city centre)

JUST REDUCED

A much improved 1960s Bluebird Reknown 32' x 9'6 single unit set in enclosed gardens on popular private park. Porch, hall, lounge/diner, kitchen, bedroom, bathroom, LPG gas radiator central heating, UPVC replacement double glazing, Decra style roof, private gardens behind high fencing, communal car parking nearby

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Psalm 18:2

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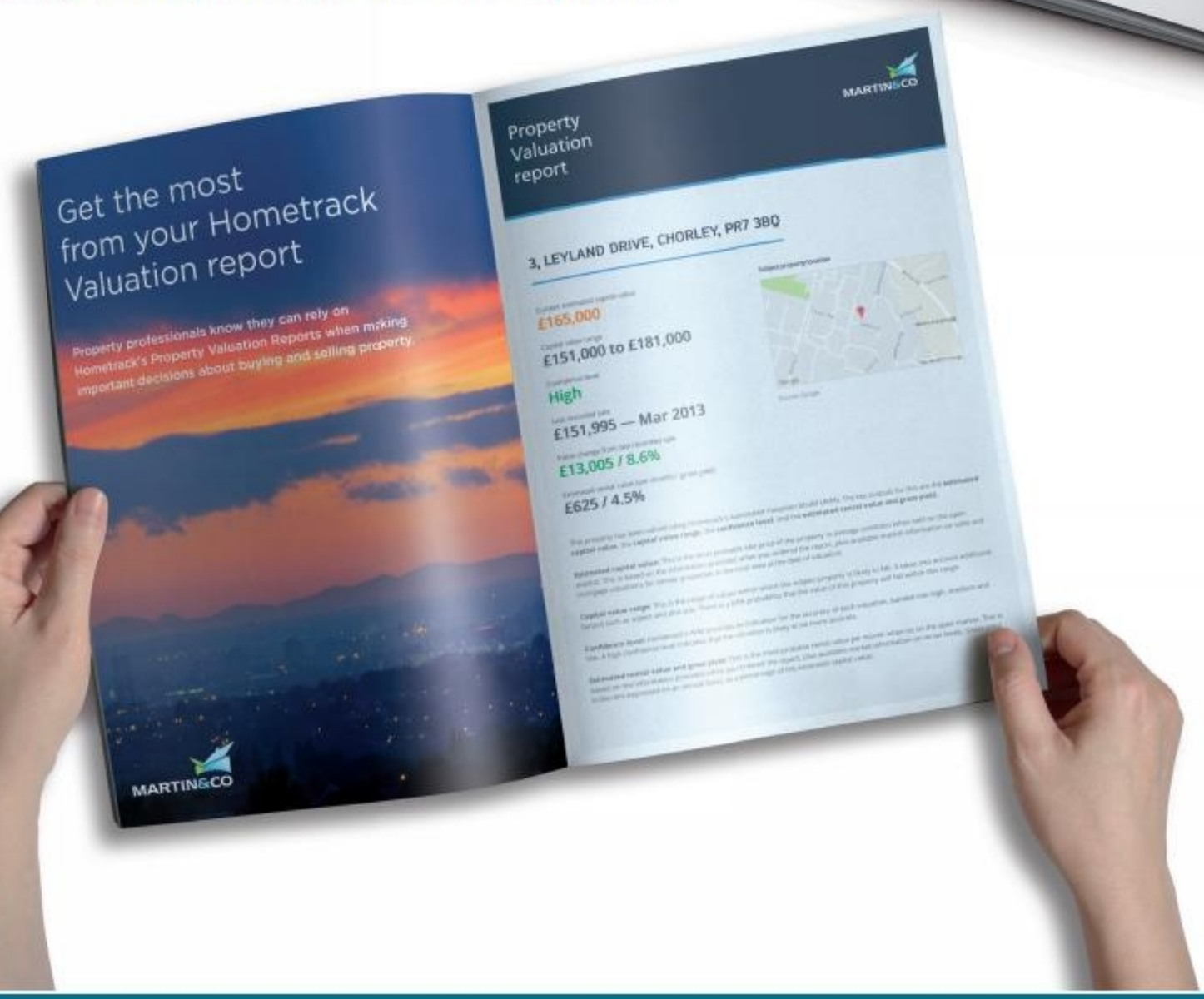
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Ford Fiesta B&O Play Zetec – 1.0T EcoBoost (100PS) 6 speed

New Fiesta is like a party on wheels

By **Tony Yates**

For this week's road test I have the wonderful new Fiesta 'B&O Play Zetec' which to be honest, needs no introduction from me, because it's simply a wonderful machine. Plus, there are literally millions of little Fiesta's running around out on the open roads, and for good reason. But, me being me, I wanted to see if this 'new' version still has some of that old-school charm running through its Ford chassis.

So, let's say no more and get on with it.

Power & efficiency

My test car was powered by a 1.0-litre EcoBoost turbocharged petrol engine with 170Nm of Torque - 100PS of Ford Power, a 0-62 time of around 10.5 seconds and a top speed of around 113 mph. As for fuel economy, out on the open road, I achieved around 55mpg which was pretty good when you think it's just a tiny little 1.0-litre engine.

At first, I expected the little Fiesta to sound wheezy because of its 1.0-litre EcoBoost engine, but to be honest - I was wrong.

When you rev it hard it sounds almost 'racy' which means it's actually a pleasure to listen to and not annoying at all. Of course, you may all be thinking that a small engine equals small power? Well not necessarily so. Then again, the Fiesta won't break the sound barrier either, but what it will do is move you along at a spirited pace. Also, out on the city streets, the Fiesta fits right in with the likes of the Fiat 500 and the Kia Picanto when it comes to parking into tight spaces.

On the road

As with all of Ford's small eco-warriors – it changes direction like it's on rails and it holds the road really well, but it does feel a little bouncy, but in a fun way, which is exactly how it should be. Plus, out on the open road, the Fiesta really is a joy to drive no matter what the road conditions are doing beneath you.

The brakes also felt good and firm too. And, as for the suspension - it actually absorbed England's bumpy roads really well, although as I said earlier - it was a little on the bouncy side, but again in a fun way, which is why it kept me smiling all the way to Hull and back.

Safety & technology

Some of the equipment you get on the 'B&O Play' model includes; front fog lights (including cornering lights), headlights halogen projector with black bezel and dedicated LED daytime running lights, automatic headlights, automatic wipers, quickclear heated windscreen, Ford MyKey, air conditioning (manual control) steering wheel 3-spoke leather-trimmed, trip/fuel computer, Bohai Bay Mint body colour (also available in chrome copper) B&O PLAY Premium audio system with 360° sound which Includes 10 speakers and a subwoofer, Digital Sound Processor (DSP), Ford SYNC 3 Navigation with 8" Touchscreen, Bohai Bay Mint colour theme to key interior areas: meaning you get anodized interior door spears, air vent "Smiley" and instrument panel spear. And, contrast stitching on floor mats and interior mirror cap cover.

Let's be honest, that's loads of extras for your money and something that really looks the part without looking 'flash'.

To sum up

I am going to finish it here, but, I'm going to give the Fiesta five stars in this test, not only because I like how it looks on the outside, but also because I believe it's worth taking a look at because after all –it's a Ford Fiesta. What's not to like about that!

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13 63 HONDA CR-V 2.0 I-VTEC SR PETROL 5DR, met blue with half leather, alloys, alarm, bluetooth, climate & cruise control, e/windows, e/folding mirrors, Reverse camera, parking sensors, Xenon Lights, FSH, 23K **£14,795**

12 12 KIA SPORTAGE 2.0 KX-3 PETROL 5DR, Black with half leather seats, alloys, auto lights , bluetooth, cruise control, e/mirrors, e/windows, radio/cd, roof rails, panoramic roof, FSH, 57K **£11,495**

11 11 HYUNDAI IX35 2.0 CRDI PREMIUM 4WD AUTO 5DR, met grey with half leather seats, alloys, auto lights & wipers, bluetooth, climate & cruise control, heated seats, raer sensors, radio/cd, FSH, 76K **£9,495**

06 06 LAND ROVER DISCOVERY 2.7 V6 HSE AUTO 5DR, black with beige leather, alloys, climate & crusie control, heated leather seats, panoramic roof, rear parking sensors, 4x4 ,FSH, Motorway miles **£7,995**

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05 05 MG TF 135 1.8 CONVERTIBLE 2DR, Silver, alarm, alloys, front e/windows, e/mirrors, radio/cd, remote locking, SH, 46K **£1,995**

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17 67 MG GS 1.5T EXCLUSIVE AUTO 5DR, met silver with full black leather, alloys, climate & crusie control, Heated seats, Sat Nav, 1 owner, FSH, 14K **£17,495**

17 17 MG GS 1.5T EXCLUSIVE AUTO 5DR, met silver with full black leather, alloys, climate & crusie control, Heated seats, Sat Nav, 1 owner, FSH, 10K **£17,495**

17 17 MG GS 1.5T EXCLUSIVE AUTO white with black leather interior, sat nav, cruise control, climate control, 1 owner, 16k **£17,495**

15 15 FORD KUGA 1.5 TITANIUM X 4WD AUTO 5DR, white with full leather, auto lights & wipers, climate & cruise control, DAB, heated seats & screen, FSH, 16K **£16,995**

12 61 KIA SOUL 2 1.6 CRDI AUTO 5DR, met silver, alloys, aircon, bluetooth, e/ folding mirros, e/windows, radio/cd, SH, 21K **£6,795**

13 13 VAUXHALL ASTRA 2.0 ELITE CDTI 5DR AUTO, met grey with full black leather, heated seats, FSH, 70k ..... **£ 6,295**

11 60 NISSAN NOTE 1.6 ACENTA AUTO 5DR, mt silver, alloys, aircon, cruise control, e/mirrors, e/windows, radio/cd, remote locking, SH, 70k **£5,695**

06 06 MINI COOPERS CHECKMATE 3DR AUTO, met blue/grey with grey/blue half leather, alloys, SH, only 46k **£4,695**

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04 53 MERCEDES CL 316 2.7 CDI TD CIPRO MANUAL CAMPER, 4 Berth, basin, double oven, garage, pull out awning, shower, Sat Nav, 50K **£19,995**

15 15 FORD TOURNEO 2.2TDCI 300 LIMITED 8 SEATER 5DR, met silver, alloys, air con, cruise control, DAB, parking sensors, FSH, 30k ..... **£15,995 + VAT**

13 63 AUDI A3 SPORTBACK 2.0 TDI S-LINE 5DR MANUAL DIESEL, met black with half leather seats, alloys, climate control, DAB radio, e/mirrors & windows, privacy glass, 1 owner, FSH, 39K **£14,995**

17 66 MG3 STYLE 1.5 5DR, Yellow w/black roof, aircon, alloys, bluetooth, dab, ex demo, FSH, 9K **£8,897**

17 66 MG3 STYLE 1.5 5DR, Yellow w/black roof, aircon, alloys, bluetooth, dab, ex demo, FSH, 15k **£7,995**

14 14 NISSAN JUKE 1.6 VISIA PETROL 5DR, met black, alloys, aircon, e/mirrors & windows, isofix, rear sensors, FSH, 20K **£8,495**

15 65 KIA VENGA 1.4 1 ISG PETROL 5DR, Red, e/mirros & e/windows, radio/cd, remote locking, FSH, 24K **£7,995**

12 62 KIA CEED 1.4 CRDI 1 5DR MANUAL DIESEL, white, air con, bluetooth, e/mirrors & windows, Isofix, Radio/cd, 1 owner, 56K, SH **£6,495**

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09 58 AUDI A3 1.4 TFSI SE 5DR MANUAL, met grey, a/c, alloys, front fogs, e/windows and mirrors, FSH, 70k **£5,995**

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Jazz 18YM 1.5 i-VTEC Sport Man	£17,780.00	£3,870.38	27%	£1,000.00	£12,909.62	£199.00	£7,547.42	£7,557.42	£19,591.80	5.9%	£10.00	10,000	4p	5.68%

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Fuel consumption figures for the Jazz Sport 1.5 i-VTEC Manual mpg (l/100km): Urban 39.2mpg (7.2L/100km), Extra Urban 55.4mpg (5.1L/100km), Combined 47.9mpg (5.9L/100km). CO_2 emissions: 133g/km. Fuel consumption figures sourced from official EU-regulated laboratory test results, are provided for comparison purposes and may not reflect real-life driving experience.

Model Shown: Jazz Sport 1.5 i-VTEC Manual in White Orchid Pearl at £17,780 On The Road (OTR). Terms and Conditions: New retail Jazz Sport 1.5 i-VTEC petrol ordered from 01 April 2018 to 30 June 2018 and registered by 30 June 2018. Subject to model and colour availability. Offers applicable at participating dealers and are at the promoter's absolute discretion. Not to be used along with any other offers currently available. *Honda deposit contribution: £1,000 Honda deposit contribution on new Jazz models purchased through Honda Aspirations. 5.9% APR representative Honda Aspirations (PCP): Maximum customer deposit 30%. You do not have to pay the Final Payment if you return the car at the end of the agreement and you have paid all other amounts due, the vehicle is in good condition and has been serviced in accordance with the Honda service book and the maximum annual mileage has not been exceeded. Excess mileage charge includes VAT at current rate. Indemnities may be required in certain circumstances. Finance is only available to persons aged 18 or over, subject to status. All figures are correct at time of publication but may be subject to change. Honda Franchise Dealers are credit brokers, not lenders. Credit provided by Honda Finance Europe Plc. Cain Road, Bracknell, Berkshire RG12 1HL. Honda Financial Services is a trading name of Honda Finance Europe Plc. Cain Road, Bracknell, Berkshire RG12 1HL a company registered at Companies House No. 03289418. Honda Finance Europe plc is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority, Financial Services Register number 312541. 5 Years' £599 servicing: Please visit http://www.honda.co.uk/cars/offers.html. Johnsons Cars Ltd (Firm Reference Number: 512460) are an Appointed Representative of ITC Compliance Ltd, and are authorised & regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (their registration number is 313486) and are permitted to advise on and arrange General Insurance contracts. Registered Name: Johnsons Cars Ltd, Registered Office: Johnsons Cars Ltd, Empire Court, Albert Street, Redditch, Worcestershire B97 4DA. Registration No. 3716766. VAT Registration No. GB927551606.

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Advertorial

Your Invitation to new Dealer-point open day at Volvo Truck and Bus in Banbury

Volvo Truck and Bus Centre London, a Division of Volvo Group UK Limited, recently opened a new Dealerpoint in Banbury, in partnership with customer, Cherwell Valley Silos Ltd.

Located at Twyford Wharf, Banbury, the new Volvo Banbury offers a full range of Dealerpoint services, in addition to new and used Volvo Truck sales.

For all parts requirements, there is a dedicated hotline along with a delivery service which is available twice a day. Other services offered at Banbury include a 24-hour national breakdown response via Volvo Action Service. An on-site driver's rest room includes refreshments and welfare facilities.

Volvo Truck and Bus Centre Banbury is your Volvo Truck and Bus specialist.

We'll give you exactly the vehicles you need, from new trucks and certified used trucks to affordable rental packages. Ask for further information on the latest stocks and prices.

Volvo Truck and Bus Centre Banbury supply and fit new and exchange parts, Genuine Volvo Parts. We can supply all makes parts and consumables for trucks, buses, trailers and workshops too, courtesy of Volvo and Roadcrew Solutions.

For repairs, service and maintenance, Volvo Truck and Bus Centre Banbury will keep you moving. All work is carried out in well-equipped workshops by experienced technicians, using Genuine Volvo Parts. We're always ready to help!

Our new Banbury Depot is conveniently sited alongside the M40 with Jn.11 Banbury just a couple of miles away.

Our opening hours are

Monday - Friday 06.00 - 22.30hrs

Saturday 07.00 - 13.00hrs

Sunday Closed - Emergency call out only

Telephone 01295 814000

Our 'Open Day' is on Thursday 24th May at our premises at Unit 7, Cherwell Valley Silos, Twyford, Banbury, OX17 3AS and starts at 10.30am and refreshments will be served throughout the day until 5pm. There will be a demonstration of Volvo products and services and an opportunity to see Volvo's latest Euro 6 trucks and coaches.

For more details, contact Nina San:
Email: nina.san@volvo.com or mobile 07854 859311

To gain more information on all the facilities and services on offer at Volvo Banbury Dealerpoint, you are invited to attend this open day.

Volvo Truck and Bus Centre Banbury

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Thursday 24th May 2018

AGENDA

10:30 - Open day begins
Refreshments will be available throughout the day
Demonstration of Volvo products and services
See our latest Euro 6 Volvo trucks & coaches
17:00 - Open day finishes

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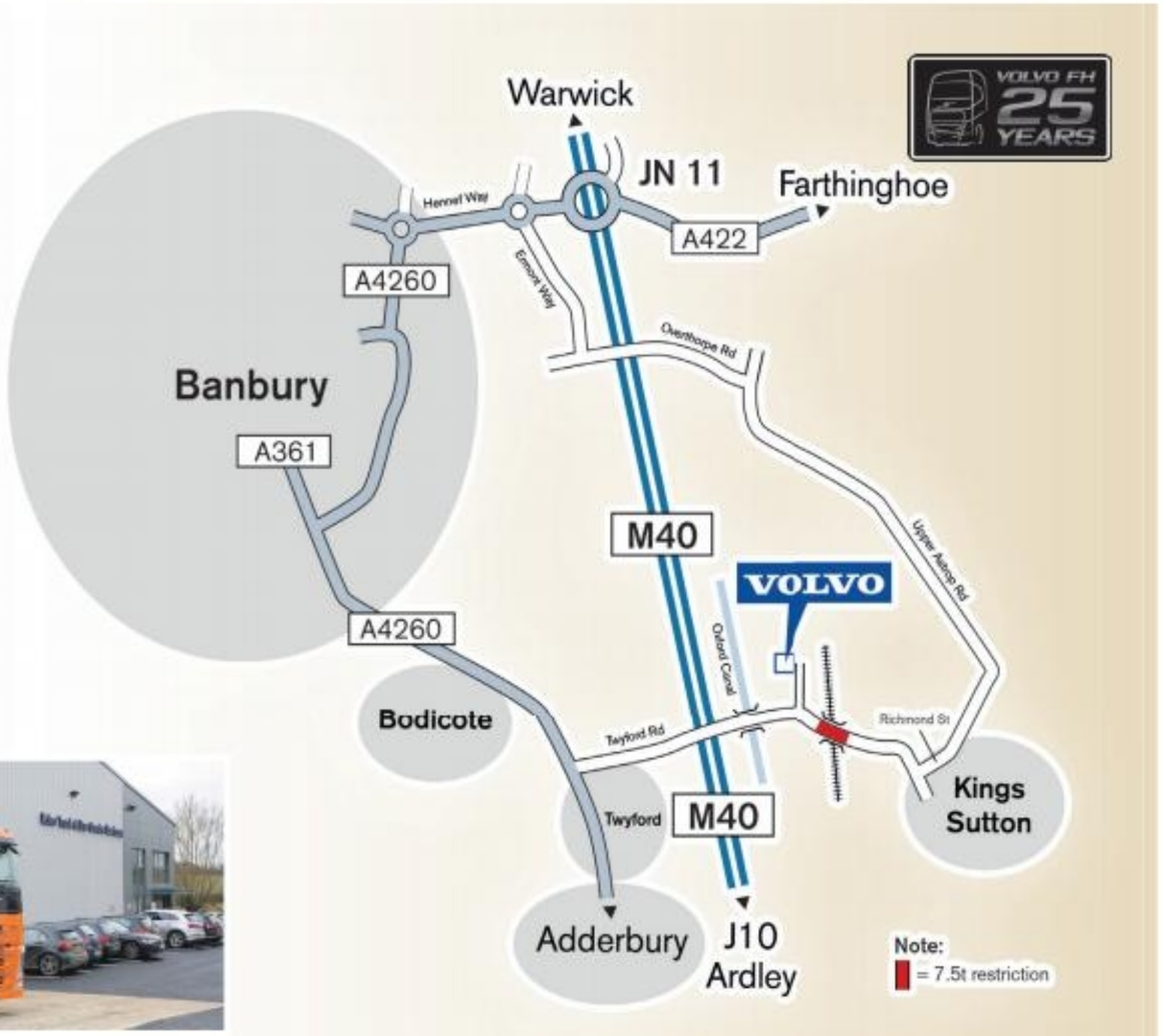

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2009 (59) VAUXHALL COMBO 2000 CDTI 1.3 Diesel Van in White – One Owner – Recent Service – CD/Radio, ABS – Drivers Airbag – Remote Central Locking – Steel Bulkhead - Side Loading Door – Lined Load Area – Racking – c89966 Miles..... **£2995 + vat**

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2008 (08) VOLKSWAGEN PASSAT Highline TDI 2.0 4 Door Diesel Saloon, **For Sale On Customers Behalf** – Two Owners – Air Conditioning – CD/Radio – Electric Windows & Mirrors – Cruise Control – ABS Multi Air Bags – Leather Seats – Heated Front Seats – Remote Central Locking – Alloys - c130666 Miles **£2995**

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2002 (52) TOYOTA COROLLA T3 VVTI 1.6 5 Door Automatic Petrol Hatchback in Blue, **For Sale On Customers Behalf** – 5 Owners – Air Conditioning – CD/Radio – Electric Front Windows & Mirrors – ABS Twin Airbags – Remote Central Locking – 2 Keys - Folding Rear Seat – Rear Wash/Wipe, Heated Rear Window – Alloy Wheels – Service History – Long MOT - c90123 Mile..... **£995**

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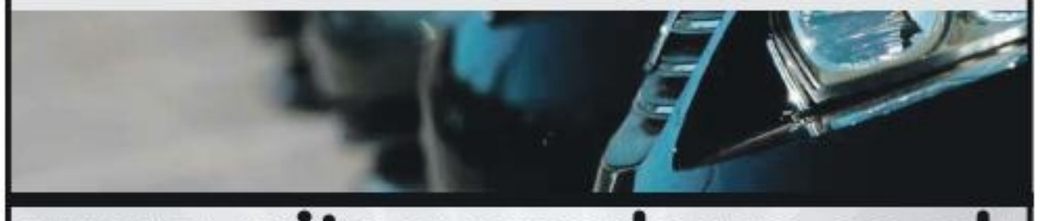

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For Sale

WANTED Star Wars lego mini figures for collector. All considered cash paid. TEXT ONLY PLEASE 07460 775703

NEW tow bar for Peugeot with fittings £10 tel: 07866 082610

CHAIR bed as new £25 tel: 01844 339465

PETROL cylinder lawn mower 12in cut £30 tel: 01235 835608

COFFEE table with under siteve teak 1m 10cm long x 45cm wide good condition £5 tel: 01491 651976

7X Fite Angel smoke alarms ST620 universal backing plates 10yr battery life optical sensing with thermal enhance £5 tel: 01491 651976

BUSH 40" LED FHD TV 6 months very genuine reason for sale with free wall clock £125 tel: OX 751074

LAWN mower flymo rotary stripes lawn for adjusting levels for cutting good condition electric £15 tel: 01865 875639

GARDEN furniture solid wood two circular tables and four chairs £15 tel: 01865 875639

FRAME tent 4/6 birth for sale other camping equipment open to offers tel: 01235 765574

GARDEN leaf blower collector good order £15 tel: 07719 111860

WANTED ride on motor not tractor working or not cash paid tel: 07719 111860

NEW shooting jacket large size green lined waterproof £49 good make tel: 07719 111860

IKEA pine wood single wardrobe was £70 sell for £30 tel: 07719 111860

NEW pair Clarks brown shoes size 8 and size 9 £25 tel: 07719 111860

ENCYCLOPAEDIA Britannica 32 volumes all mint condition £90 tel: 07719 111860

HONDA 4hp petrol engine suitable for Rotavator etc £35 tel: 01865 891271

CHAMPION 4 wheel rotary lawn mower working order no box hence £40 tel: 01865 891271

MOTOR oil Mondeo mk3 Ford 5/30 5L unopened 2x power filters 1 x engine air filter oil filters offers tel: 01491 651976

SAT Nav Nuvi 205w series life time map updates car charger windscreen mounting operating booklet excellent condition £5 tel: 01491 651976

SAMSONITE carry case black W49cm H15cm outside zip compartment interior pockets shoulder strap rechargeable excellent condition £5 tel: 01491 651976

SOLID oak table 55cm square top 50cm high removable legs excellent condition £5 tel: 01491 651976

VAX cordless blade 24v vac under guarantee boxed as new. Cost £150 will accept £65 tel: 01235 799946

OLD 5 gallon paraffin drum suitable for collector or retro garage or garden display ornament £5 tel: 07856 312907

OAK carver dining chair excellent condition £15 tel: 07974 781234

HONDA Jazz alloy wheel complete with tyre 175x65xr15 £75 tel: 01844 213675

GARDEN roller very heavy £20 tel: 01235 529174

LARGE guilt frame quality print of Canaletto's view of the Doges Palace 90cm x 55cm (medici society ltd) £50 tel: 07936 909503

SAINSBURY king size duvet 15 tog white used once not needed only £8 tel: 07936 909503

UNUSED osma black square gutter 5 pieces 4 meters long £5 tel: 07936 909503

ARMY shipment box black painted30in x 23in in 20mm wood hinged top 2 steel end handles very strong tel: 07936 909503

TWO Ercol dining room chairs light wood vgc £15 tel: 07936 909503

UNUSED boxed TV ariel 52 elements high gain £5 tel: 07936 909503

good condition well looked after £50 tel: 07748 900397

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HEAVY dutytarpalin sheet 15ft3in x 12ft9in green brand new £30 tel: 01235 835608

1200W circular saw (new) tel: 01865 372253

ELEKTRA wood lather base 30in long tel: 01865 372253

BLACK and Decker work mate tel: 01865 372253

AXMINSTER band saw tel: 01865 372253

FORD escort MK1 two boxes of used parts trim etc ring for list £50 ono tel: 07514 661646

PORTA potti elegance very clean ideal caravan or camping £20 tel: 07514 661646

EXERCISE ball purple from argos hardly used £4 tel: 07514 661646

TWIST and swing exercise stepper with instruction manual £10 tel: 07514 661646

HILL Billy electric golf trolley with seat two batteries charger 6x left handed clubs brush tees and balls £25 tel: 01491 612838

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MOBILE phones Nokia and Philips pay as you go £20 for both tel: 01235 812166

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WANTED Spare wheels to fit mini one five hole fitting 15in tyres or none up to 4 wanted tel: 01235 813166

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24th June - 29th June £242
1st July - 6th July £242
8th July - 13th July £242
15th July - 20 July £262
22nd July - 27 July £262
29th July - 3rd Aug £268
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LAWN mower large flymo perfect working order £15 tel: 07910 014918

PATIO table black metal with wind open parasol good condition with under table weight £5 tel: 01865 433089

FOLD up garden chairs 2 heavy duty resin white good condition £5 each tel: 01865 433089

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WALLPAPER table ideal for car booters good condition tel: 01865 433089

PAVING slabs all must go open to offers square oblong some with corners missing tel: 01865 433089

BRASS extending fender good condition £75 tel: 01235 772988

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BRASS fireside set 4 piece on stand tel: 01235 772988

ONYX standard lamp with shade both soft green colour £30 tel: 01235 772988

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BROWN memory foam dog bed medium dog staffie size excellent condition £15 30in x 20in interior tel: 01367 718978

GARDEN tools spade shovel lawn rake hedge clippers lawn edger open to offers to any of them tel: 07502 904788

BLACK working boots in good condition never been worn £15 tel: 07502 904788

GENTS Raleigh pioneer cycle 10 speed good condition blue £15 tel: 01993 772398

NEFF cooker hood two piece carbon filter boxed and unused £10 tel: 01285 255173

DIMMER switch 3 gang brushed stainless steel unused £10 tel: 01285 255173

BUGGY zeta zoom stroller pale blue hood and rain cover good clean condition £20 tel: 01235 763602

RIDE on dumper truck suit 1-3yr old with engine sounds £10 tel: 01235 763602

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ELECTRIC garden shredder good working order £15 tel: 01869 343841

CHAMPION 40 rotary mower good starter and runner heavy duty 18in cut genuine reason for sale £40 tel: 07904 549950

LAWN mower large flymo perfect working order £15 tel: 07910 014918

GRASS trimmer power base 350w good workingorder £10 tel: 07866 082610

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For Sale

90X block pavers colour brindle never used buyer collects over ordered £40 tel: 01993 776672

STAG minstrel mahogany MB173 five small drawer knee hole sit under dressing table moveable mirror £30 ono tel: 01235 525257

NEW unused spare wheel Michelin energy tyre 205/55/R16 91H 4 hole 6.5J ET49 HUB £15 tel: 01235 525257

WOODWORM pioneer boys cricket pads and gloves R/H and GM boys cricket trouser excellent condition £10 tel: 01235 525257

MEN'S white frame reflex MTB mountain bike good condition tyres wheels etc. needs slight attention hence £25 tel: 01235 525257

MAHOGANY 1100mm round dining table with corners fold out extension legs unbolted for transit £20 tel: 01235 525257

VERY pretty wooden dolls house roof opens into attic furniture and dolls included £15 tel: 07909 650813

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THOMAS the tank engine stroller/buggy. Little used for grandchild with rain covers and hood + basket £25 tel: 07542 070260

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SMITH Corona word processor never used £35 tel: 01235 835260

GIRLS Raleigh mountain bike in pink for girl age 5 as new £20 tel: 01235 211366

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KENWOOD SC250 electric slicer as new condition £20 tel: 01367 713978

LADIES jodhpurs size 18/20 2 pairs cream used 1 pair new brown cord jods navy show coat good condition £20 tel: 07826 272957

CHAMPION riding hat BSEN1384 only worn a few times as new condition size 6 7/8 navy with solver flash tel: 01367 218978

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woman seeking

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man seeking

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Sainz in talks about his future

By George Welch

F1 - Renault

RENAULT has opened talks with Carlos Sainz about a long-term contract at the team, despite the on-loan Red Bull driver having an unclear future.

The Spaniard has been loaned to the Enstone team and can be called back for 2019 if Red Bull loses Daniel Ricciardo – who has an uncertain future of his own – to a rival outfit.

Ricciardo is unlikely to shore up his future with the Austrian drinks team until the summer, putting Renault bosses in an awkward position because they are not totally in control of their line-up.

Despite the uncertainty, Renault managing director Cyril Abiteboul said a long-term plan is being discussed with Sainz, who only has 13 points so far this season and has been out performed by team-mate Nico Hulkenberg.

He told Motorsport.com: "We have two great drivers, but obviously we have a particular situation with Carlos, which is a contract where we are exposed for next year, and we knew that since day one.

"We need to start thinking way in advance about what could be the situation. That is why we have already started discussions with Carlos about [the] longer term.

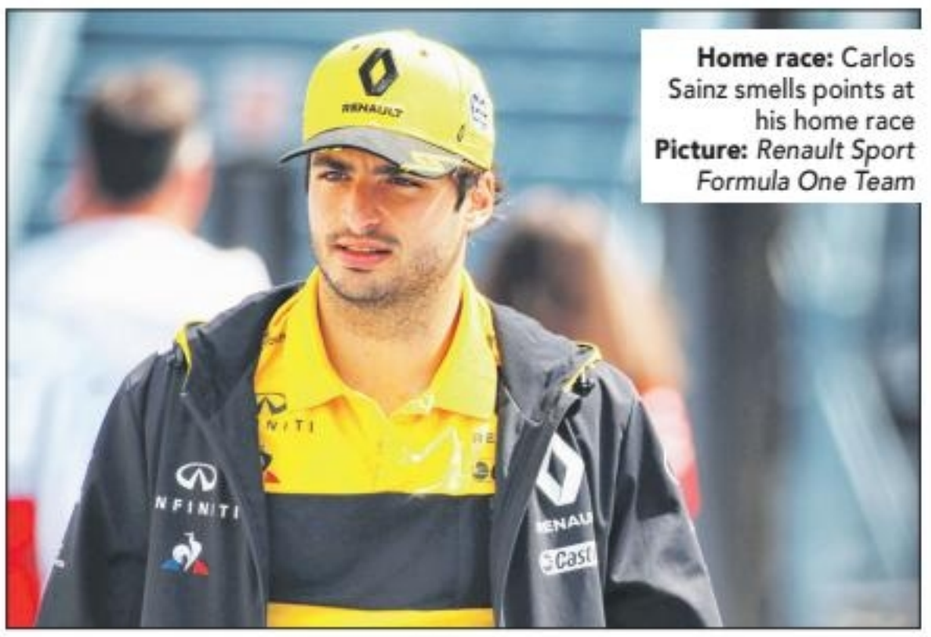
"[It is] not a super comfortable situation to be in, but we need to accept that we are still playing catch up on many areas [compared to the top teams] and one of the areas is driver market."

Back on the race track and Renault hope to benefit in Sunday's Spanish GP from engine upgrades.

The Barcelona circuit is the home race for Sainz, who is raring to go.

He said: "It's the most special GP of the year for me and it feels so different to any other race.

"Wherever I go throughout the weekend, there's always people cheering, it's a real privilege to experience."



Home race: Carlos Sainz smells points at his home race
Picture: *Renault Sport Formula One Team*

Meanwhile, Renault junior Jack Aitken will make his debut in a contemporary Formula 1 car when he drives for the outfit in the post-Spanish Grand Prix test at Barcelona.

Aitken is a member of the Renault Sport Academy and was promoted to the role of reserve driver for the team at the start of this year.

Haas hope to repeat pre-season times in Barcelona

F1 - Haas

HAAS are ready to bounce back in Barcelona – a track they impressed at in pre-season.

Kevin Magnussen put down a lap of 1:18.360 at Circuit de Barcelona in March to clock the sixth-quickest overall time achieved during the eight days of testing.

The Banbury-prepared team are looking for a similar performance when they aim to right their wrongs from Baku last time out.

Romain Grosjean crashed under the safety car and Magnussen trudged over the line in 13th.

Grosjean said the positive testing has provided the team with a solid 'baseline', but team principal Guenther Steiner was more nonchalant, saying all teams have mountains of data on the track and that, more importantly, the cars were not racing.

The Italian added a podium is possible 'if all the stars line up'.

"Just racing ourselves into a podium will be difficult without other circumstances, like some of the top-three teams dropping out," he said.

Meanwhile, Williams driver Sergey Sirotkin has had his penalty upheld for the Spanish GP after the Grove-based outfit's review request was rejected.

Stewards decided unanimously on Tuesday not to review the decisions because Williams were 'unable to provide new significant and relevant evidence'. Sirotkin will still serve his three-place ban after being found 'wholly responsible' for colliding with Sergio Perez in Baku's first lap collision.

Embarrassed: Romain Grosjean before he crashed under safety car conditions in Baku
Picture: *Haas F1*

First weekend off to a good start, next stop Le Mans

Endurance racing

ALEX Lynn enjoyed making his point-scoring, albeit uneventful, Aston Martin Racing debut in the opening round of the FIA World Endurance Championship at Spa.

The Grove racer is part of AMR's new team for the GTE class competition, which will challenge BMW, Ferrari, Ford and Porsche.

Lights went out for the new season with the six-hour race in Belgium on Saturday.

Lynn qualified his #97 in eighth and had put in a calm drive for the opening two stints before handing over to team-mates Jonny Adam and Maxime Martin.

The car lacked the pace to stay with the frontrunners and finished sixth, with AMR's other racer finishing a place behind for a total of 14 points.

Lynn said: "I was really happy that my first weekend with AMR went smoothly.

"It's great to represent the team and the brand, and on your first event with any factory team you want to make sure your race is clean.

"I had really strong lap times in the race, it was positive and now we need to build on it, especially with Le Mans coming up next month – we hope that it will be a much closer race."

The next race is the 24 hours of Le Mans on June 13.

Debut: Alex Lynn finished sixth in his first race for Aston Martin Racing
Picture: *Aston Martin Racing*

Speed kings claim victory

Super GT

KING of the castle Sean Walkinshaw reigned supreme again as he clinched a second successive victory in Fuji.

The Chipping Norton Super GT racer put in a memorable drive with Autobacs Racing Team Aguri team-mate Shinichi Takagi in the second round of the championship.

The speedy duo claimed victory in the GT300 series by 26 seconds, marking Walkinshaw's second career win in the class after triumphing at the same Mount Fuji circuit last year.

Success in Fuji helped the team climb to first in the embryonic championship.

An overjoyed Walkinshaw said: "Getting the win was amazing for the whole team, it's a fantastic result and to take the championship lead as well is pretty special.

"Fuji is very strong for our car, so we were expecting a good result, but to get the win really topped off the week."

Takagi qualified on pole and opened up a 20-second lead before handing over to Walkinshaw.

The 24-year-old's faultless stint consolidated the lead to more than 40 seconds, before Takagi took over to seal victory.

"My stint was pretty uneventful and when I got in the car all I needed to do was manage the gap and not take any risks. The car was fantastic and the ARTA guys did an incredible job."

The next round is at Suzuka on May 19-20.

First points for Smith in Spain

MotoGP

BRADLEY Smith claimed his first Moto GP points of the year with a 13th placed finish in the Spanish race at Jerez.

The Forest Hill rider was upbeat following his best finish so far this season on Sunday, just days after losing his factory ride for the Red Bull KTM team to Yamaha's Johann Zarco next season.

Smith finished behind team-mates Mika Kallio and Pol Espargaro in 10th and 11th respectively.

The 27-year-old said: "The opening half of the race was pretty good and then (Alvaro) Bautista and Maverick (Viñales) started to up their pace a little bit.

"I tried to go with them but got a bit nervous and stressed on the bike."

Smith, 22nd in the drivers' standings, added: "I spent half the race digging-in-deep. Pol and I then duked until the last corner – I was off the track.

"I was pleased with my pace. It is nice to see our updated bike looking strong. It is looking like the right direction."

Team manager Mike Leitner was delighted all three racers brought the bikes home with 14 points.

Zarco finished the race runner-up to championship leader Marc Marquez.

The next race is the French GP in Le Mans.

Sport

Rolling back the years

By George Welch

Football

NEARLY 2,000 people turned out on a sunny Bank Holiday Monday to thank Les Robinson for 10 years service at Oxford United.

The former United right back was one of the club's great servants and former teammates came out to join him.

Goalkeepers Paul Kee and Alan Judge were joined by defenders Matt Elliott, Phil Gilchrist, Darren Purse and Anton Rogan.

Further forward Stuart Massey, Les Phillips, Paul Wanless, Matt Murphy and Joey Beauchamp rolled back the years alongside the likes of Chris Allen, Mark Druce and Jamie Cook.

They formed a Robinson side who took on an Liverpool XI that featured former United manager Mark Wright, Alan Kennedy, Mark Walters, Paul Walsh, Jimmy Carter, Michael Thomas and John Durnin.

Lining up: Liverpool legends took to the pitch to face former United stars

With Denis Smith and Malcolm Crosby in charge of the United side and Phil Neal in charge of the Liverpool stars it was a very competitive game with goals unusually at a premium for a testimonial.

Wanless smashed home the winner for United in a 1-0 victory.

The only dampener on the day was an injury for Gilchrist who was stretchered off in the second half.

Current United boss Karl Robinson was in the stands, as was U's legend James Constable, who paid for himself and his family to come in and attend!

Robinson said it was a 'fantastic day'.

He said: "I feel very proud to have had the opportunity and humbled not just by so many people coming along but also the hard work that so many people put in to organising the day.

"It's something I will never forget and I want to thank the fans for their amazing support today, and during my time at the Manor."

Still got it: Les Robinson wins a tackle during his benefit game

Liverpool legend Neal added: "We were very proud to come along and play for Les, a dedicated professional who dedicated his life to Oxford United."

Smith said: "Les was a fantastic professional and an absolutely top man: a pleasure to work with. We are all so happy to have played a part and supported him today."

Only five players have made more appearances for the U's than the popular full back, who featured 458 times after signing in 1990.

Pepperell and partner miss out at innovative event

Golf

ABINGDON golfer Eddie Pepperell and his partner Matt Wallace crashed out of the European Tour's innovative GolfSixes tournament at the quarter-final stage on Sunday.

The second edition of the unique 16-pair event, held at the Centurion Club in St Albans, saw England Men, top their group at the end of the opening day.

Pepperell and Wallace, both winners on the European Tour this year, drew 1-1 in their opening tie against England Women before drawing 2-2 with Sweden.

Saturday's results paved the way to the knockout stages the following day.

But France proved too strong in the last eight, winning holes one and four to record a 2-0 victory and send the England team out.

Ireland's Gavin Moynihan and Paul Dunne went on to beat the French pair of Romain Wattel and Mike Lorenzo-Vera in Sunday's final.

South Korea's Soomin Lee and Jeunghun Wang wrapped up third place with a 3-0 win over Australia.

Pepperell will tee off at the Rocco Forte Open in Sicily today (Thursday).

He is due to tee off on the 11th at 8.30am, (9.30am BST), in a group with Thomas Bjørn and Thorbjørn Olesen.

High-five: Eddie Pepperell (no. 6) and Georgia Hall, from the England Women's team, celebrate together **Picture:** *European Tour*

10-wicket victory starts season in style as bowlers strike

Cricket

BICESTER & North Oxford CC bowled over opponents Great & Little Tew II to begin their Cherwell League Division Three campaign in emphatic style.

BNOCC seized the momentum of the first innings and wickets fell regularly, with Ryan Moore (2-14) and brother Lewis (1-21) helping to wrap up the Tew innings in the 46th over for just 120.

The 1st XI's resounding win by 10 wickets was the perfect start to the new season.

Elsewhere, Great & Little Tew IIIs forfeited their Division 7 match with BNOCC 2nd XI on Thursday night leaving the Bicester team to hastily arrange a friendly against Oxford Downs IIs.

Ben Clark (2-53) and Ryan McLaughlin (1-43) were the pick of the Bicester bowlers, but Downs took an imposing 238-6 from their 45 overs.

Callum Doak's majestic 92 not out was paced perfectly, taking his time to settle at the crease before smashing 10 fours and two sixes in his 69 ball innings.

BNOCC 3rd XI got the season under way with a thriller against Cherwell League new boys Westbury IIIs, but eventually found themselves on the wrong side of a three wicket loss.

Next week BNOCC 1st XI travel to Horley, the 2nd XI host Bledlow Village, and the 3rd XI face Cropredy.

Ballers net season awards

Basketball

ABINGDON Eagles marked the end of season with a bundle of awards for its ballers.

The Year 10 King Alfred's basketball team were crowned Team of the Year at King Alfred's KS4 Sports Awards.

The Y10 team went on to win the Oxfordshire School Games County Final for the third time after picking up the trophy in Y8 and Y9.

After the introduction of one Y11 player, the team were again crowned champions in the Y11 finals against St Birinus on Wednesday last week.

All Y10 players were recognised at AEBC's end of season celebration evening with Dillon Bose, 15, and Ruben Collins, 15, winning Coaches Player awards.

Sam Cheshire, 14, was presented with the Baker Caudle Award for his contributions on and off the court, with Joe Wright, 14, awarded Most Improved Player.

Coaches Player for the girls went to Betsey Elliot, 13, who also won Most Improved Player.

At the KS3 Sports Awards, Oliver Claringbould picked up Coaches Player and James Bourva won Most Improved.

The club are looking for talented ballers who will be in Years 8 and 9 next year to try out for their National League team at Abingdon & Witney College's Abingdon campus on Saturday from 1pm to 3pm.

County champions: King Alfred's Y10 and Y11 basketball team

Promotion for Chinnor after play-off glory

Rugby

PROMOTION to National League 1 beckons for play-off winners Chinnor after a nail-biting encounter with Sedgley Park on Saturday.

The South Oxfordshire side went into the play-off final knowing victory would see them achieve promotion at the expense of their National 2 North counterparts.

Bertie Hopkin, Josh Barton and Jonny Bentley ensured the National 2 South runners up would take a 22-10 lead into half time in front of a crowd of 1,378.

The game looked dead and buried when a George Oliver try put Chinnor 30-10 ahead, but Sedgley's fighting spirit brought the scores to 35-31 at the final whistle.

Chinnor's director of rugby Matt Williams said: "We did our homework.

"I thank all those involved over the year for our success. It's been awesome."

Elsewhere, Henley Hawks' head coach Pete Davies stepped down after eight years of coaching at the Club.

Henley finished the season ninth in National League 2 South on 73 points.

In the South West Premier, Banbury suffered a heart breaking 42-31 defeat to Exeter University in the play-off finals to miss out on promotion to the fifth tier.

Meanwhile, Oxford Harlequins prepare to move to a new £1million ground on Horspath Road on a 30-year lease.

>> Tell us what your sports team is doing? Who wins your end of season awards?

Contact the sportsdesk on 01235 516919

Payne for United as ex-loanee's goal finishes season with defeat

By George Welch

Blackburn Rovers 2
Darragh Lenihan 12, Jack Payne 76

Oxford United 1
James Henry 66

Attendance: 27,600 (1,290 away)

FORMER Oxford United loanee Jack Payne scored the winner as Championship-bound Blackburn Rovers edged past their visitors 2-1 in front of a jubilant Ewood Park.

The attacking midfielder linked up with the U's from Huddersfield Town in the summer, before being recalled by the Terriers in January to make the move to Lancashire.

The 23-year-old said before Saturday's game that playing against his former team-mates would be 'weird', but he had no trouble lashing home a deflected left-foot shot for a 76th minute winner.

Already promoted Rovers had to win to have any chance of clinching the League One title from champions Wigan Athletic.

Oxford's James Henry did his best to play the role of party pooper by netting an equaliser – but Will Grigg's winner 15 minutes from time in their game ensured Wigan would be crowned champions.

That rendered the outcome of United's trip to Blackburn as insignificant, although the near-30,000 crowd was treated to an entertaining final game of the season, which culminated with a Blackburn promotion party after the final whistle.

Celebration: James Henry pulled one back for United
Pictures: *Steve Daniels*

It was a game of firsts as Darragh Lenihan's first goal for the club put the hosts ahead before prolific defender Charlie Mulgrew – who ended the season with a mighty 14 goals – missed a penalty.

Henry has also impressed for the U's, particularly in the second half of the season, and the 28-year-old hoovered up his 11th goal of the season with a cute flick on 66 minutes.

That goal was his third in his last three appearances and his eighth since January 20. Boss Karl Robinson recently said that Henry had 'single handedly kept United up' with his goals since Christmas.

Blackburn needed to respond if they were to have any chance of being champions.

With 14 minutes to go, it was sub Payne, the scorer of seven Oxford goals (and many more assists) this season, who got the party started again with his first for the club.

Only just on, the Huddersfield loanee ghosted to the right of the box, cleverly finding space, and fired the ball beyond Eastwood, a former Rovers goalkeeper, for the winner.

Robinson's men finished 16th in League One on 56 points, 13 fewer than last season.

Acrobatic: Ricardinho gets up high to win the ball, but concedes a free kick
Strong: Jon Obika powers his way through the Blackburn defence

Progress made in a few weeks

KARL Robinson believes his players should take pride from their performance at Blackburn Rovers, a side who racked up 96 League One points and will play next season in the Championship.

Speaking amidst the promotion party at Ewood Park, a place he spent time as a coach, Robinson said: "This is a massive football club and it should be a motivation to my players.

"You don't want to be the bridesmaid but we've played it really well today.

"I'm proud of my players and we've been part of a very good spectacle.

"We ran up short a bit. We huffed and puffed and we need to learn that we've got to score.

"In the first 25 minutes we were the better team – we got in three or four times and didn't ask a question [of the Blackburn goalkeeper]."

Robinson called on his squad to work hard over the summer to carry the momentum into next season.

He said: "We finish in a very positive frame of mind.

"To finish the way we did…our only two defeats in the last few games have been to the sides in first and second and both were by a one-goal margin.

"I think it's progress, so we have to move forward now."

SkyBet League 1		GP	GD	PTS
1	Wigan Athletic	46	60	98
2	Blackburn Rovers	46	42	96
3	Shrewsbury Town	46	21	87
4	Rotherham United	46	20	79
5	Scunthorpe United	46	15	74
6	Charlton Athletic	46	7	71
7	Plymouth Argyle	46	-1	68
8	Portsmouth	46	1	66
9	Peterborough United	46	8	64
10	Southend United	46	-4	63
11	Bradford City	46	-10	63
12	Blackpool	46	5	60
13	Bristol Rovers	46	-6	59
14	Fleetwood Town	46	-9	57
15	Doncaster Rovers	46	0	56
16	Oxford United	46	-5	56
17	Gillingham	46	-5	56
18	AFC Wimbledon	46	-11	53
19	Walsall	46	-13	52
20	Rochdale	46	-8	51
21	Oldham Athletic	46	-17	50
22	Northampton Town	46	-34	47
23	MK Dons	46	-26	45
24	Bury	46	-30	36

Amazing atmosphere for teenager's debut

TEENAGER Owen James could not be blamed for pinching himself when he made his Oxford United debut – in front of more than 27,000 people.

The 17-year-old enjoyed the final seven minutes of the 2-1 defeat to Blackburn Rovers on Saturday when he replaced the more experienced Jon Obika.

The forward, who signed a professional contract earlier this season, had time to try his luck and fired over the bar.

Delighted to make his debut, James's dad was at the game, although his mum was away and missed his debut but even that failed to dampen his spirits.

He said: "It was absolutely amazing to get some minutes and I just want to say thank you to the people who have helped me through.

"Being around the first team has been amazing, they've really helped me come into it. The stadium's amazing and the fans and atmosphere was as well. It was a really good [place to make your debut].

"[Manager Karl Robinson] told me to run around and enjoy it – and I definitely did."

He added: "I'm going to work hard in pre-season, come back bigger and stronger and do it again."

Debut: Owen James was given his first taste of first team football

James was one of five to sign pro deals at the U's in March. Fellow youngster Albie Hopkins was also on the bench. The club is in the process of establishing a full Under-23 development squad to bridge the gap between youth team football and the senior side.

SOUTH OXON Sport

More sport inside: Football: U's campaign ends in defeat | F1: Teams move to Europe for Barcelona race | Golf: Innovative event widens sport's appeal

Ryan to stay at United unless money talks

Committed: Ryan Ledson drives over a cross during Saturday's game at Blackburn Rovers **Picture:** *Steve Daniels*

By George Welch

FANS' favourite Ryan Ledson could be an Oxford United player next season following his surprise appearance on the final day of the season.

The midfielder was not expected to be in the United squad for Saturday's 2-1 defeat at Blackburn Rovers, amid interest from Preston North End.

The Championship side were in for the 20-year-old during the winter transfer window and manager Karl Robinson admitted there was a 'high possibility' of Ledson making the move to Deepdale.

But the former England youth international was named on the substitute bench and enjoyed a 35-minute cameo at Ewood Park.

Speaking afterwards, Robinson gave U's fans a boost by suggesting the transfer is now doubtful.

He said: "After the player of the year do we had a conversation. It's hard because he's very committed to this club.

"Unless something comes in [financially] that we feel is a necessity, that we have to take, he won't be moving.

"But if it's something he really wants and is a very heavily-weighted financial package for our club we'll do it.

"But until that point he wants to be here. We had a conversation on Friday afternoon when he wasn't in the squad...but it shows you how powerful fans can be."

Robinson added: "Preston haven't really spoken to us. We have had a conversation and we believe they like him.

"I'm not really sure what I can and can't say, but I don't foresee him going there."

When quizzed on other potential destinations for the former Everton trainee, Robinson said there is 'nothing that we know of'.

Ledson has scored four goals in 80 appearances since making the move to the Kassam for an undisclosed fee in the summer of 2016.

Robinson is having a busy time this week as he prepares for next season.

He said: "We'll be in everyday [this week]. The staff will [keep us] moving forward to try and do the right thing for the football club.

"I'm meeting three players on Wednesday (yesterday) and two more on Thursday (today).

"It means there could be a period of settling in [for the new players]."

Tiger promises new signings for new season

CHAIRMAN Sumrith 'Tiger' Thanakarnjanasuth has thanked the 'amazing' Oxford United fans as he promises to announce new players 'soon'.

Speaking after the season finale's 2-1 defeat at Blackburn Rovers, the Thai businessman, said: "The supporters have been amazing this season and played a massive part in the feel good factor returning to the club for the last few weeks.

"Those that travelled to Blackburn were a credit to the club and I want to thank everyone for getting behind Karl and his players at the most important stage of the season."

The owner said he is encouraged by season ticket sales ahead of an 'exciting' 2018/19 campaign.

He said: "I would also like to urge fans to buy their season tickets. Early sales are very good and I'd like to thank those who have renewed already.

"We are already starting to build a squad for next season and hope to have news of new players soon, but everyone who gets their season ticket now knows that they are playing their part and helping us build what we think will be a very exciting side, playing good football and backed once again by passionate fans next season."

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